



The Planting Gazette

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON.

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[No. 9



Editorial Notes

Mr. D. M. Weigel's letter published in our correspondence columns is of unusual interest, for though opinions may differ regarding the practicability of opening large areas of land in the forest-covered dry zone of Ceylon no one can fail to see the great and growing importance of finding new supplies of motor fuel. We may take it for granted that the production of cheap alcohol would be one of the most certain of all roads to fortune. But what we have to consider is the question whether the pioneers of so wild and malarious a district as that indicated would not lose their health, their money, and a large number of the coolies they tried at first to acclimatise there. This is the crux of the matter. Banish malaria from the tropics and most of the products that the Earth can grow would be enormously reduced in cost. But can we banish malaria? When we read, the other day, Dr. Bahrs' able report on the malaria of Kurunegala and Major James' interesting survey of the fever of Talaimannar we began in some small sense to realise the immensity of the problem. "From Puttalam to Elephant Pass" says Mr. Weigel. It is a land of forest and thorny jungle, broken here and there by open spaces of sand all pitted in the dry months with the foot-prints of wild animals, elephants, bears, leopards and deer, who have wandered about seeking water, and in the rains all green with short cropped grass. One great stretch of three hundred thousand acres in the Villachiya Korale, is utterly wild and does not contain a single village. Sixty years ago there were a few hamlets, but the jungle has advanced, and where a village existed in the middle of the last century there is now a pool which forms the centre of the game sanctuary. From the high black rocks that rise above the sea of trees one can look to the horizon in every direction and find no apparent end to the desolation. Yet every mile of it contains relics of ancient cultivation; the bunds of tanks and the remains of channels and sluices remain to tell of a lost prosperity. To what extent this repulse of civilization was due to civil war and how far to malaria it hard to say, but malaria and other tropical diseases were a great if not the only cause. We do not wish to discourage anyone from attempting the taming of

this wilderness. The new railway from India will run right through it. What the Americans did for Panama remains to encourage us. But before we think of such a great adventure it is well to look the facts in the face. We have a promise from Mr. Weigel that he is ready to pursue study of the subject further, and we hope that he may be able to follow up this interesting letter with a longer article.

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The letter regarding Brazilian Rubber which appears on another page was placed at our disposal by its recipient. Beyond the fact that both correspondents are keenly interested in the subject and are in a position to know a great deal more than the man in the street we are not at liberty to give their names. It will be observed from the prices quoted that the letter was written several months ago, but this does not detract from the value of the opinions expressed, for conditions remain much the same. What is Fine Hard Para? Is it of necessity a product of Brazil? Or would the product of Para rubber trees, prepared in the same way, be Fine Hard Para even if grown in Ceylon or Timbuctoo? The point is of some interest, for if the description is only a trade name—as *peko* is—there is no reason why any Ceylon Estate's Rubber should not be prepared in such a way as to come under this description and so be available for the manufacturers who are at present bound by archaic specifications. If however Fine Hard Para has a special meaning and does of necessity indicate that it is the product of a Para tree grown in Brazil, then we must fight against use of the term in Government and other large contract specifications to the detriment of an article grown in the Empire. As our correspondent suggests, the Imperial Institute should be asked to move in the matter.

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In continuation of our programme we publish with this issue a plan of latrines for coolie lines. For this, as for the plans of lines already published, we are indebted to the Hon. Mr. Rutherford, the Acting P.C.M.O., who writes as follows: "I am sending you a copy of a Type Latrine for coolie lines for surface trenching, as it is divided into partitions the caste question does not come in. They are quite inexpensive, the board should be scrubbed with a disinfectant when the latrine is moved. The trenching ground should be flat: the latrines should be solid, so that

when moved they do not fall to pieces. It has been used with great success in other countries where coolie labour is employed, and it is one of the chief solutions for hook worm (anchylostomiasis)." Dr. Rutherford's lines were criticised rather sharply in our last number. One correspondent suggested that they should never have seen the light of day in this paper. Surely this is a lamentably narrow point of view! Either the design is good or it is not good. If it is good then its publication is palpably of great value. If it is bad, all the same it is the suggestion of one who may at any time be in a position to force his views upon us through legislation. Let it therefore be published where it is most likely to undergo well informed criticism so that the hide-bound prejudices of Government may be dispelled. (N.B.—Prejudices may be defined as the opinions of those with whom we do not agree.)

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We wonder if Mr. L. S. Woolf's book "The Village in the Jungle" has had a sale in Ceylon at all commensurate with its interest. It is by far the best novel on Ceylon life in any aspect that has yet appeared. Perhaps Mr. Woolf is too pessimistic. The life of the jungle villager is not quite so miserable and without relief as depicted in this book. But the vile scheming and mean rascality of the very slightly civilized Asiatic is drawn truly and unsparingly, and there is the sound of the forest in the book from the first page to the last. We have not time to review the book now, and only mention it in the hope that success may attend this promising author's first attempt and encourage him to write more.

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We have been asked by the Inspector-General of Police to give publicity to the note he has made on a recent case of Rubber Theft, and the Planters' Association has been asked to co-operate in making the laws dealing with such thefts effective. We commend this note to all Rubber planters for careful perusal, and we are certain that the Government may be assured of the assistance of all our readers.

BRAZILIAN RUBBER.

It may possibly be of interest and value to you to know some of the reasons why Brazilian Rubber is held in the market at 30 per cent. above plantation prices. If you look carefully at the conditions you will see that Fine Hard Para with 20 per cent. moisture is quoted at 3s. 9d., while 1st plantation latex with 21 per cent. moisture is selling at 2s. 9d. In other words the equivalent of Brazilian Fine Para is 4s. 6d. compared to 2s. 9d. per pound of the 1st latex. This is an abnormal situation consequent upon certain market factors, apart from any questions of the intrinsic values of the two classes of rubber and arises from the following causes:—

(a) For many years past all British and other Government contracts have specified that where rubber is employed it shall be only Fine Hard Para. Nearly all private firms have followed the same practice in giving

out contracts. Hence the demand for Brazilian rubber has increased in proportion to the expansion of the use of rubber out of all proportion to any increased demand for the plantation product.

(b) A very strong syndicate in New York and London summed up the position about six months ago and decided to form a corner in Fine Hard Para and up to the present have purchased or obtained control of some 6,000 tons of the Fine Hard Para, this amount being equivalent to some 60 per cent. of the total output of that grade of Brazilian Rubber for the year 1912-1913.

The public, unaware of the real factors in the case, imagine that Brazilian Rubber is a superior article to plantation and hence the higher prices. To try and imitate Brazilian Rubber in the East is not the solution of the problem, for in the contracts calling for Fine Hard Para only that particular class of rubber can be supplied.

The true solution lies in a thoroughly well-thought-out and properly directed campaign in America and Europe against the present contract conditions laid down by Governments and individual firms. I am convinced that for all practical purposes plantation rubber is in many ways preferable to the Brazilian product, and the result of change in the contract system making optional the use of Fine Hard Para or 1st latex plantation would be a fall in the price of Brazilian rubbers and a rise in that of plantation.

The origin of the contracts for Fine Hard Para was to prevent the use of such products as guayule, balata and rubber inferior in nerve and residency.

The more you can work towards the standardization of Ceylon rubber the more you will benefit the industry. One manufacturer can contract for numbers 1, 2, or 3 standard and be sure of what they are buying, the easier will be the attainment of the desired result of increasing the demand.

When in 1911, the Ceylon Rubber crop for 1913, was estimated at 10,000 tons, this estimate was criticised severely in Europe, and especially in Germany. From January 1st to June 30th of this year the export was 4,88 tons; during the second half-year the yield will be somewhat heavier and the estimate will be more than covered. The estimates made for other countries in the East are also working out very accurately.

You should try to get the Imperial Institute to take up this campaign in regard to existing contract conditions.

A REVIEW.

In the Bulletin of the Imperial Institute, April-June 1913, there appears a Special Report, of a series of lectures on "The economics of the Tea Trade" delivered at the London School of Economics and Political Science, during the Lent Term 1913, by G. S. E. Chandler, D.Sc., F.L.S. and John McEwan, F.R.G.S.

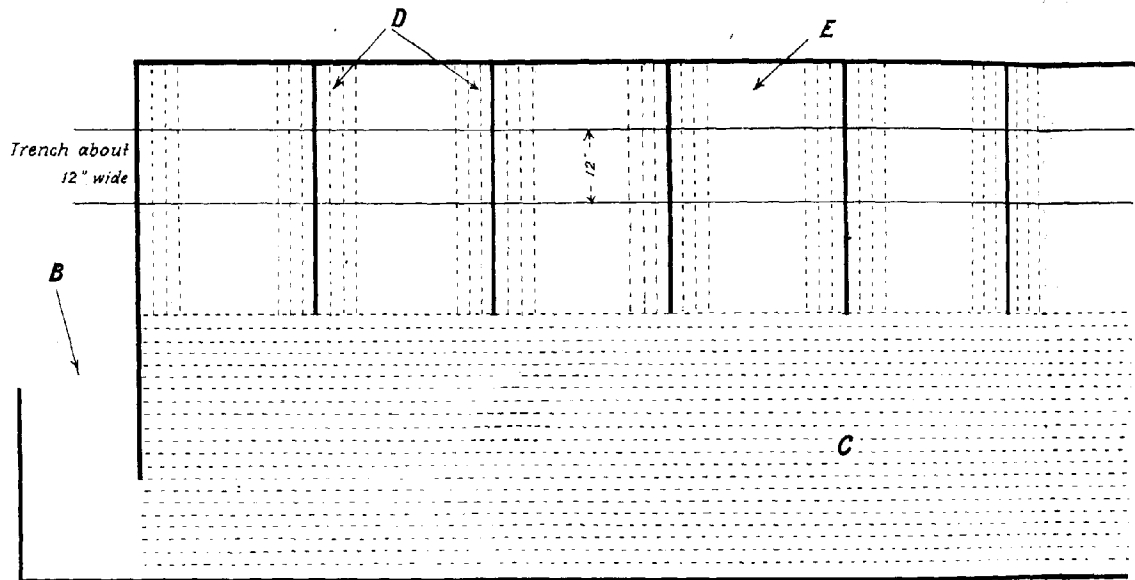
The lectures deal with the early history of Tea and state that Tea drinking was well-known in China in the 6th

Century A.D., and that in 793 the custom was sufficiently widespread to warrant imposition of a tax for revenue purposes, the first of an endless series of tea duties.

The world's production of Tea for 1912 is given as 731,000,000 lbs., giving a per capita consumption of nearly

Nuwara Eliya in 1836, and China tea was grown on the Worms Estate in Pusilawa in 1841." The Worms Estate is evidently meant to refer to Rothschild Estate, owned by the Worms Brothers, who have the credit of having first planted tea in that district. But the estate was not planted until 1841, but

LATRINES FOR COOLY LINES



- Galvanised iron sheets
- ===== Hardwood boards
- C. —do— platform
- D. —do— footboard six inches wide
- E. Eight inch space
- B. Entrance

Surface Treatment

Trench to be about 12 ins wide
 Earth to be sprinkled over at
 The Latrine to be moved when
 Latrine to be moved forward a
 The Ground can be used again
 the soil is soft

sent to England in 1838, but the first public sale was not held in Calcutta until two years later. The area now under Tea in India is given as 575,000 acres, and the lecturer goes on to state that "In Ceylon, Assam Tea was planted in

from them.
 (4) Verandahs and floors should be at least one foot above ground level so as to facilitate cleaning and promote dryness.

Century A.D., and that in 793 the custom was sufficiently widespread to warrant imposition of a tax for revenue purposes, the first of an endless series of tea duties.

The world's production of Tea for 1912 is given as 731,000,000 lbs., giving a per capita consumption of nearly 3 lbs. per head to the ten principal tea consuming countries. New Zealand heading the list with Australia second, and the United Kingdom and Canada next in order.

Dr. Chandler's lectures deal with 3 main problems:—

1. The question of the true nature of the plant grown.
2. The securing of the maximum yield of the highest quality leaf, with the minimum injury to the plant.
3. The regulation of the processes of manufacture in order that the possibilities of the green leaf may be fully realised.

He points out that the first is botanical, the second agricultural, and the third is chemical, and states that Botanists now widely accept the name published by Link in 1822, viz., "Camellia Tea."

In the 18th Century it was not realised that black and green Tea differed entirely from difference in the manner of manufacture, and in no way owing to any specific distinctions in the plants yielding the green leaf, and hence the difficulties that arose in the nomenclature of the Tea plant.

The discovery of a wild Tea in India between the years 1819 and 1824 led to the view now widely accepted that "the home of the Tea plant" is not China but India.

Cultivation and manufacture are then dealt with, and it is pointed out that Tea is one of the small number of perennials grown for the sake of a leaf crop, and that the constant removal of the young leaves must have an important physiological effect on the plant which leads to deterioration and calls for manurial treatment; more especially in countries like Java and Ceylon where there is no winter to afford the Tea a resting period. A small Ceylon Estate is recorded to have yielded 1,388 lbs. per acre, and in Java 1,100 lbs. per acre is recorded as the average over 2,000 acres.

Besides being grown, tea has to be manufactured, and it is pointed out that no methods of manufacture will make a high grade tea from a low grade leaf, but that bad methods of manufacture will spoil good leaf, and the leading market points, upon which the quality of a tea liquor are judged, are given as:—

- I. Flavour: (resulting from the presence of an essential oil.)
- II. Pungency: (caused by the unfermented (unoxidised) "Tannin" present in the liquor.)
- III. Colour: Chiefly due to the presence of fermentation (oxidation) products of "Tannin."
- IV. Body (depending upon the total soluble matter which can be extracted from the leaf.)

The first tea planted in India was reared from seed obtained from China in 1780. A sample of Indian Tea was sent to England in 1838, but the first public sale was not held in Calcutta until two years later. The area now under tea in India is given as 575,000 acres, and the lecture goes on to state that "In Ceylon, Assam Tea was planted in

Nuwara Eliya in 1836, and China tea was grown on the Worms Estate in Pusilawa in 1841." The Worms Estate is evidently meant to refer to Rothschild Estate, owned by the Worms Brothers, who have the credit of having first planted Tea on that Estate, or on Labukelle Estate, but only in an experimental way.

The lecture further states that "250 acres were put under tea in Ceylon in 1873, and that this was increased to 35,000 acres in ten years." However, Ferguson's Directory gives the 19½ acres of Assam hybrid tea on Looolecondra Estate, as having been planted in 1868-9, and this date is probably correct, as in the Ceylon Blue Book for 1871 the export of Black Tea appears for the first time in the export returns and shows 38 lbs. as exported, valued at £9 0s. 0d. and again in 1872, 27 lbs. are shown as exported, and the value is placed at Rs. 87.50. Value of exports prior to 1872 were shown in Sterling, and from that year onwards in Rupee currency. Since these early days the area in Tea in Ceylon has risen to 395,000 acres and the exports to nearly 192,000,000 lbs.

The report ends with references to Tea growing in Java, Formosa, and other countries, and summarises three lectures on Commerce in Tea by Mr. John McEwan, which deal with the history of the Tea trade and contain several very interesting tables and statistics dealing with the variations in the London prices for Indian Teas, consumption per capita and the changes in the rate of duty.

These lectures provide a most detailed and instructive resume of the cultivation, manufacture and history of Tea.

J. SHERIDAN PATTERSON.

September 29th, 1913.

COOLIE LINES.

The question of choosing suitable sites for Coolie Lines has not received sufficient attention in the past, with the result that not alone unhealthy but often dangerously unhealthy lines have resulted. It is both a difficult and responsible question to settle where to erect lines, very often the most suitable position and surroundings are situated on the most inconvenient places on the estate, for the distribution of the labour force. But there are a few data which should never be lost sight of—

(1) High, dry and sloping ground should be selected, when possible, no matter whether the soil be permeable or not.

(2) No sites should be chosen in the neighbourhood of paddy fields, marshes or swamps.

(3) It is of extreme importance to make provision for an ample supply of as pure water as possible, within a measurable distance from the lines but sufficiently far to exclude the possibility of both surface and subsoil pollution from them.

(4) Verandahs and floors should be at least one foot above ground level so as to facilitate cleaning and promote dryness.

(5) A well puddled mud to be used for the floors and walls, the material for this should be brought from a distance and taken from the side of a hill, so as to ensure its not having already been contaminated and to prevent pits being dug in the immediate neighbourhood of the lines.

N.B.—Though not prohibited, the plastering of walls and floors with cow dung is not to be recommended as it renders them damp, affords material for the propagation of micro-organisms, attracts flies, and pollutes the air.

White washing should be employed.

(6) Verandahs should be kept as far as possible clear from end to end.

(7) An air space of at least one foot from the wall plate should be left so as to promote ventilation.

(8) Junctions of walls and floors should be periodically tarred and walls chunamed or lime washed.

(9) Goat sheds should be built at a distance and no animals kept in the lines.

(10) Compounds should be sloped with a fall away from the lines.

N.B.—Cement rounded drains or stone rendered in cement properly graded not more than 1-30, and built at a distance from the verandahs would be a great advantage in keeping the compounds dry and are easily kept clean.

(11) Vegetation, undergrowth and coolies gardens should be removed for a distance of at least 20 feet from the lines all round.

(12) A systematic collection of tins, bottles, coconut shells, &c., which hold water and are breeding places for mosquitoes, should be buried.

(13) Line sweepings and debris should be collected burnt and buried.

(14) The practice of excavating earth from the floors to provide for the walls should be condemned.

G. LANGLEY HUNT.

HOW RUBBER IS MADE.

Special to the Planting Gazette.

For years I had hungered and thirsted after what may be described as "inside information" regarding the process of rubber manufacture.

Rubber trees I had seen in serried ranks marching up from road-side to hill-crest in stiff monotonous regularity, planted at mathematically calculated distance each from the other.

Rubber shares I know something of, having taken unto myself many "Trusts" at Fifty-one and regretfully parted (at my Bankers special request) at Twenty-two, while as to the latex, who has not seen that precious fluid trickling down its appointed channel to the half coconut shell waiting to receive it at the foot of the tree?

But I wanted much more intimate knowledge than this. I wanted to "see the wheels go round" so to speak, and although I let drop frequent hints to that effect in the presence of Planter friends I noticed a strange, coy unwillingness to expose to profane eyes the mystic rites performed in the twin temples of Para and Ceara.

I suppose there are secrets in connection with most industries and that it is necessary to veil them from the prying eyes of the vulgar herd, otherwise it would not be done, nevertheless I was very disappointed.

When therefore the genial Colossus, who presides over the destinies of a well-known K.V Estate and rejoices in the name of one of England's patron Saints, invited me up for the week-end and motored me along the tortuous roads East of Yatiyantota, I felt (in addition to the wibbly-wobbly sensations inseparable from careering round hair-pin corners on the outside edge of two wheels) that I was at last within measurable distance of the "inside information" aforesaid.

I realize now that I was nothing of the kind, and that my host was but a crafty schemer, a misleader of confiding innocence as represented by the unsophisticated Colombowallas. Read on and you will see what I mean.

We reached the *totum* about mid-day and found in readiness there a much needed breakfast, a meal ample for ten men, and being ravenous we fell to.

During the meal I gathered from sundry casual remarks exchanged between my host and his S.D. that the days was a "poya" or some such heathen institution and that whatever else it meant one result was that the factory was closed and all the labour force absent "on urgent private affairs," as the Army List puts it. Tomorrow would be Sunday, but I gathered that a little thing like that was not likely to be accepted as an excuse for two days' idleness, and the wheels would begin to "go round" alright soon after daylight, or Colossus would know the reason why.

Meantime there remained to us the disposal of the afternoon, as much of it as was left that is, for be it said that a ten-man-power breakfast cannot be done justice to by three persons much under three hours, and the cuckoo clock already indicated four o'clock.

On our way out from the station my host had mentioned that near his bungalow was a deep pool in the river where congregated a most interesting shoal of fish, big and carp-like, which he believed to be Mahaseer but which in spite of repeated attempts he had been unable to catch.

Now seemed a good time to stroll down and V.A. them, so we went and I shall not soon forget the wonderful sight that met our gaze. The river is perhaps fifty yards wide and with the exception of here and there a pool formed by sharp corners, shallow enough for a man to wade across. Dense jungle skirts the banks and the approaches are few and steep, for the water is fifty feet below the road level and runs with cataract-like force. Presently we found an opening, however, and clambered down through a narrow ravine of whip-like bamboo grass, with

the cane-brakes rattling and crackling many feet above our heads, slithered headlong over a bed of greasy clay, and arrived breathless behind a giant boulder at the water's edge.

Said Colossus, "I'll just peep over and see if there is anything in view," which he did and promptly reported a few nice fish quite close in and well up stream. Cautiously and as noiselessly as possible I climbed to the top and looked over. Shades of Walton, what a sight! Nine I counted, all of them within easy casting distance, all undoubtedly Mahaseer and varying in weight—as near as I could judge—from four to fourteen pounds each. The water was clear as gin and not more than six feet deep, the silvery sides and bronze backs seemed to be in about mid-water and were so close that even the faint gold rim that outlines the primary scales of *Barbus tor* were clearly visible. But alas, neither walking sticks nor Trichi cheroots are acceptable baits in that stretch of the river, and as they were the only ones we had to offer, no Mahaseer graced the table of Colossus that night—or the next for that matter.

Naturally, however, we made an attempt. Who would'nt?

We climbed breathlessly back to the road, Marathoned to the bungalow, collected two rods, one from behind the pianola and one from the motor-shed. There were others distributed under the beds, in the dining-room, in the corner of the bath-room, in the garden cooly's hut, and one in the room reserved for drying wet clothes, but all these I only noticed afterwards.

Fifteen minutes later we were back behind the boulder but sad to relate, during our absence the ferry landing near by had been invaded by a bathing party of men and boys obviously exhilarated with good arrack and a superabundance of animal spirits. Needless to say every fish had disappeared.

For the next hour and a half we tried every likely spot with every known lure, from worms to Halcyons, from berries of the wild fig to chunks of dough. It was no good, either they were not hungry or they wanted something we had'nt got.

Talking the matter over afterwards Colossus gave it as his opinion that "the damworms were not trying." Darkness and an exceeding great thirst eventually put a period to our efforts, so tired and dripping with perspiration we sauntered back to the bungalow to wallow in huge tubs of cold well-water and eke to moisten the internal clay.

Later on in the evening Colossus treated us to a spirited recital on the pianola, dispensing Wagner and waltz tunes, Chopin and Ragtime with charming impartiality. I should explain that he comes of an ultra pious stock and on Saturday nights immediately before retiring is prompted by hereditary instinct to lift up his voice in hymn or sacred song, hence "Nazareth" followed us to bed and snatches of the "Holy City" haunted our dreams.

Black rain-clouds had banked up during dinner and

obscured the full-moon, consequently we were not surprised to hear a torrential downpour during the night. True the rain would discolour the water and render fishing out of the question (I dreamily thought) but fishing was not what I had braved the hidden dangers of the K.V. for anyway. I was out for information about rubber making.

Somewhere between seven and eight o'clock on Sunday morning we sat down to a Planter's "early tea" which I discovered consists of coffee, porridge, eggs and bacon, cold ham, last night's joint, toast, marmalade and a score of other items, the whole comprising a meal ample to keep any townsman going for twenty-four hours, but then as my host explained, "we rubber planters have to work deuced hard and must be careful to keep up our strength."

This reference to planters and their strenuous work provided an opening to enquire what time I was to be in readiness to go over the factory with him, whereupon I learned that no latex would be arriving before ten o'clock at earliest.

"What I propose," said he, "is that we march down to the Rest House which on Sundays becomes our local Club, and there we shall meet quite a crowd of good chaps taking their brief weekly spell of rest and recreation."

This we did, sauntering along the grassy side-walk still wet with the night rain and exhaling a grateful earthy smell. Caught in the slanting rays of sunshine as they filtered through the trees every moisture-laden leaf became an emerald cushion bearing aloft a diamond crown, while the river leaped and tumbled musically over grey boulders in the ravine below. 'Twas a great morning.

A cool breeze stirred the feathery tops of a thousand graceful areca palms and from all sides came homely sounds, now of the verbose cooly, now of the gaudy wood-pecker as each industriously tapped his respective tree in search of the morning grub.

Arrived at our destination we surprised a cheery party of six, clad exceedingly *dishabille*, just emerged from the river where a hundred yard swimming race had taken place. The winner, poor chap, was extended face downward on the lawn making highly effectual attempts to unburden his system of several gallons of Kelani water over which it was understood he had "no legal or binding force," what time his late competitors cheered him on by importunate offers of warm beer.

During a short interlude for the discussion of biscuits and deadily looking lumps of red-rind cheese, I gathered there was shortly to be a dugout race over a quarter-mile course.

One way and another I have travelled a goodish distance in these prehistoric vessels and (for the readers own private information) I may say that the direction taken has not always been a horizontal one, so I knew something of the difficulties they were taking on, and was more than a little interested in the result. It seemed to me that a fleet of six wobby dugouts each manned by a stalwart to whom the prospect of a ducking merely lent added zest, and each of whom was obviously out to win, was likely to prove

intensely interesting. I was right. No more exciting race was ever witnessed either on Thames, Isis, Kelani or any other stream. The course was a truly sporting one and the hazards numerous, the latter consisting of several distinctly creepy little whirlpools interspersed with nice jagged spikes of half submerged rock suggesting something between tridents and stalagmites.

With touching self-denial all too rare in these pushful days, two of the competitors (with an eye on the trident points) instantly volunteered to withdraw in order that we might enter.

For myself I was just longing to, but duty and inclination both called in another direction, and I was dead set on seeing how rubber is made.

As for Colossus it would take at least three dugouts to keep him afloat, and beside as he said, "did they expect him to leave his guest in their clutches while he went careering over what might turn out to be Mr. Charon's blooming ferry? No indeed, we will do the starting and umpiring."

Six several times did that saturated but determined band start as we smote the Keepers tea-tray, and saw they got off clear, and six times all got capsized before the course was completed so we started them again and again until by a process of gradual elimination and the survival

of the fittest, only one was left. He it was who hit on the happy idea of starting from the finishing flag and drifting down to the starting point, claiming that he had "covered the course without capsizing, and where was the bally stakes?"

The others all being too waterlogged to protect their immediate interests we decided that we three might as well "do it in" on another round of Girl brand beer. And it was so.

Presently somebody enquired the time and, great Ceara, it was past two o'clock!

We had to get back to the bungalow, tub and breakfast, learn all about rubber making and motor twelve miles to catch the train before sunset. Of course there was a hitch of some sort over at the cook house (there always is when one is in a hurry) and four o'clock found us still at the table, eating.

Reader, I cannot tell a lie. I left the bungalow half an hour later *en route* for Yatiyantota Station with my host positively exuding information on the subject of rubber, from the planting of the seed to the sale of the finest crepe, but the inside of his factory I did NOT see.

I have a sort of sneaking suspicion that he never intended I should.

A. H. P.

CEYLON MOUNTED RIFLES.

Strength Return for Month Ending September, 1913.

DETAIL.		Lieut.-Colonel.	Major.	Captains.	Lieutenants & 2nd Lieuts.	Quartermaster.	Total Officers.	Regtl. Sergt. Major.	Regt. Q. M. Sergt.	Farr. Q. M. Sergt.	S. S. Majors.	Sergt. Tptrs.	Sergeants.	Orderly Room Clerk.	Farr. Sergeants.	Corporals.	Trumpeters.	Shoeing Smiths.	Troopers.	Total Rank and File.	Total all Ranks.	Adjutant.	S. M. Instructor.	Sergt. Instructor.	Medical Officer.	Vet. Officer.	Total.
Regtl. Staff.																											
A. Squadron.																											
Staff			2				2				1	1			1					3	5						
No. I. Troop					1		1						1			1	1		17	20	21						
" II. "					1		1						1			1	1		9	10	11						
" III. "					1		1						1			1	1		24	27	28						
" IV. "					1		1						1			1	1		1	22	30	31					
TOTAL		2		4		6					1	1	3		1	6	5	1	72	90	96						
B. Squadron.																											
Staff			1	1			2				1	1			1					3	5						
No. I. Troop					1		1						2			1	1		11	15	16						
" II. "					1		1						2			1	1		12	15	15						
" III. "					1		1						1			1	1		1	21	24	25					
" IV. "					1		1						1			1	1		1	11	15	16					
TOTAL		1	1	3		5					1	1	6		1	3	2	3	55	72	77	1	1	1			3
Total Regt. Staff		1					5	1	1	1										3	8						
Total A. Squadron		2		4		6					1	1	3		1	6	5	1	72	90	96						
Total B. Squadron			1	1	3	5					1	1	6		1	3	2	3	55	72	77						
Total Strength		1	3	2	9	1	16	1	1	1	2	2	9		2	9	7	4	127	165	181	1	1	1			3
Total Strength last Return		1	3	2	10	1	17	1	1	1	2	2	9		2	9	7	4	125	163	180						
Increase Since																					1						
Decrease Since																											
Establishment		1	3	3	10	1	18	1	1	1	2	2	11	1	2	13	8	8	184	234	252						
Wanting to Complete				1	1		2					2	2	1		4	1	4	57	69	71						
Reserve		1	1	2	6		10	1	1		1	5			2	1		13	24	34							
Total including Reserve		2	4	4	15	1	2	2	1	3	2	14			2	11	8	4	140	189	215	1	1	1			3

G. H. STEVENSON, Captain,
Adj. C. M. R. & C. P. R.C.

STRENGTH RETURN.

CEYLON PLANTERS' RIFLE CORPS.

FOR MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 1913.

Coy.	SECTION.	VOLUNTEER STAFF.								VOLUNTEER STAFF.				Total Strength of Corps exclusive of Permanent Staff.					
		Lieut.-Colonel Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	2nd Lieutenants.	Adjutant.	Qr. Master.	Sergt.-Major.	Qr. M. Sergt.	Colour-Sergeant.	Sergeant.	Lance-Sergts. & Corps.	Sergt.-Bugler.		Buglers.	Privates and Lance-Corporals.			
	Staff	1	1	2	4				
A.	Kelany Valley	1	2	1	...	31	35				
	Ratnapura	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	10	13
	Pelmadulla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	9
B.	Kandy	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	17	22
	Matale	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	15	18
	Madulkelle	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	7	9
C.	Rangalla	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	8	10
	Mattakelle	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	7	11
	Agrapatna	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	3	6
	Kotagalla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	19	12
	Darawella	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	6
	Maskeliya	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	9	10
D.	Bogawantalawa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	4	5
	Nuwara Eliya	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	7	8
	Madulsima	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	10	11
	Haputale	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	18	21
	Badulla	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	1	1	19	23
	Uda Pussellawa	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	10	13
E.	Batticaloa	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	9
	Kalutara	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	23	27
	Kurunegalla	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	13	14
	Galle	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	14	15
	Morawak Korale	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
F.	Anuradhapura	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	9	12
	Trincomalie	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	8
	Colombo	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	2	2	...	48
G.	Ambegamuwa	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	7	10
	Pussellawa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	18	14
	Dolosbage	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	11
H.	Colombo	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	1	4	2	1	55
	Motor Cycle Section	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	16
* TOTAL STRENGTH		...	1	2	9	7	7	2	1	1	7	17	20	1	6	416	497	497	
Strength by last Return		...	1	2	10	7	7	2	1	1	7	17	21	1	5	410	492		
Increase Since		...											1		6				
Decrease Since		...	1										Total.		1				
* C. P. R. C. Reserve Officers 8, Rank & File		...	55										=		63		Increase	...	5
Total Strength including Reserve		...											560		Reserve Increase		...	5	

G. H. STEVENSON, Captain,

Adj. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.

COMMITTEE OF AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENTS.

Proceedings of a meeting of the Committee of Agricultural Experiments held at the Library of the Royal Botanic Gardens at 3 p.m. on Thursday, the 11th September, 1913.

Present:—The Director of Agriculture (in the chair); the Government Botanist & Mycologist; the Government Entomologist; the Government Chemist; the Manager, Experiment Station, Maha-illuppalama; the Hon'ble the Government Agent, Central Province; Messrs. H. D. Garrick, N. G. Campbell, G. C. Bliss, R. G. Coombe, J. S. Patterson, Mudaliyar A. E. Rajapaksa, J. D. Vanderstraeten, A. W. Beven, H. Inglis, M. L. Wilkins, F. H. Layard, E. W. Keith, G. H. Golledge, A. S. Long Price, and as visitors Messrs. Churton H. Walker, Thomas Gidden, E. Brand, J. Farley Elford, Hew Kennedy, H. F. Macmillan, C. Drieberg, T. E. Wagner, L. M. W. Wilkins, and A. Bruce, the Manager, Experiment Station. Peradeniya, Secretary.

Sessional Paper No. XXXI.—Before opening the proceedings the Chairman drew the attention of the Committee to Sessional Paper No. XXXI. just published containing his proposals for the organization of the Department of Agriculture.

3. **Tea Chests.**—Referring to the last minute the Chairman said that he had a chest made of Telembu (*Sterculia foetida*) and that other woods had been received from the Forest Department and were being sawn up. The cost of the chest was Rs. 2.50. The chest did not meet with the approval of the Committee, the boards being too thin and yet too heavy and the cost too high.

4. **London and Java Exhibitions.**—Mr. Layard said they were informed that the Straits were not participating in the Java Exhibition, and as regards Ceylon, the speaker went on to say that he heard from the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce that a meeting about it was being held. With regard to the exhibit to be sent to Java, he said that the idea was that the London exhibit should go on to Java. Several members of the Committee expressed doubts as to the advisability of exhibiting at Java, but the general opinion was that it would be neighbourly for Ceylon to take part.

5. It was decided that as the minutes were published in the "Planting Gazette" it was not necessary to circulate them.

The minutes were then confirmed.

6. **Progress Reports of Peradeniya and Maha-illuppalama.**—The Chairman stated that no immediate action was contemplated with regard to the disposal of Maha-illuppalama, but the policy approved by Government was to lease or sell it to a syndicate strong enough to plant up the available coconut land, estimated at 500 acres. He thought a successful company was better than any figures

we could show. Replying to a question, as to whether any more planting was to be done, he said a certain amount of land had been cleared and would be planted, but that they did not intend clearing any more.

7. **Northway Pricker.**—Mr. Wilkins thought it would be interesting to watch the nodules on the Northway method of tapping to see if any cause could be discovered. It was also decided to continue the experiments with the cup-supports.

8. **Young Rubber Trees.**—Mr. Coombe suggested that the young rubber trees in the new clearing should be watered during drought as otherwise, should they die, a whole year would be lost. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that, as the rubber stumps were planted on the hill sides, at a considerable elevation, it was scarcely practicable to lift water from the river. However, he undertook to look into the matter.

9. (1) **Whether Latex Yield is proportionate to Foliage**, and (2) **Thinning out Rubber.**—As these two questions related to rubber, the Committee discussed them together.

In dealing with the first question, Mr. WILKINS informed the meeting that he brought up this question merely for information as to whether it was advisable to cut out every other row, as many people did, or to endeavour to get light on one side only. He then went on to read some notes from Mr. Herbert Wright's Book.

10. Mr. Coombe drew the attention of the Committee to a paragraph appearing in the "India Rubber Journal," which dealt with the recent bulletin written by the Director of Agriculture on the Heneratgoda trees, and he wished to know whether it were best to thin out rubber in one direction. A discussion followed in which Messrs. Petch, Coombe, Wilkins, Campbell, Bamber, Golledge, and the Chairman took part, and the method which seemed most favoured was that which allowed the survival of the fittest: that is, every poor latex-yielder and every weak and diseased trees to be cut out, regardless of direction or ultimate shape of the lines.

11. Mr. Elford laid before the Committee results of experiments showing comparative yields between "unpollarded," "pollarded," and "pollarded" Hevea trees on which shoots had been allowed to grow, and of experiments to show results of tapping at various intervals of time; method of tapping being 1/4 spiral, left to right of channel starting 18 inches from the ground; knife used being Michie-Golledge Chisel. He exhibited the results charted and handed the chart and table to the Chairman who undertook to have them studied. He thanked Mr. Elford for supplying the figures.

12. **Destruction of Parasites on Trees in Nuwara Eliya.**—Mr. CAMPBELL said that the parasite *Loranthus* was increasing badly on trees in Nuwara Eliya and enquired what was to be done, as it was becoming a very serious matter. He asked whether the Committee would take up and have it placed before the Pest Board.

Mr. WILKINS enquired whether it was not a matter for the Board of Improvement, Nuwara Eliya.

The Committee were of opinion that Mr. Macmillan should be asked to investigate the matter the next time he visited Nuwara Eliya.

13. **Suitable Trees to Plant in Nuwara Eliya.**—It was the wish of the meeting that Mr. Macmillan should see the Chairman of the Board of Improvement with regard to trees to be planted in Nuwara Eliya. Mr. CAMPBELL suggested that a trial be made of importing and establishing Up-country the better varieties of Rhododendrons, and Mr. Macmillan promised to undertake this in connection with the Nuwara Eliya Park and Garden.

14. **The desirability of experimenting with a young coconut plantation with about 5-8 year old plants, as being more likely to be useful to draw conclusions from than (from) land with coconut trees in bearing. The soil too should be different from the Chilaw land, a gravelly soil by preference.**—Mr. BEVEN said it was not his intention to read a paper but a few notes he had collected. His opinion was that as the trees on the experiment plot at Chilaw are heavy bearing and are growing on rich soil, the results would not be striking and would not arrest attention. He suggested that the next experiment be on a young plantation whose soil was poor: the object of experiments being to obtain good results from unpromising soils. The results of different manures on poor soils being more apparent than on rich, it would afford a better opportunity of drawing conclusions, and he enquired whether Coconut Trial Grounds were to be opened out elsewhere.

Mr. VANDERSTRAATEN said that Mr. Rajapaksa had a small plantation which should come into bearing in about 3 years and 8 months, and that he was carrying out certain experiments on the plantation.

Mr. SAXTON enquired whether other gentlemen could not be got to carry out experiments like Mr. Rajapaksa.

To a question put by the CHAIRMAN, Mr. Long Price replied that he would be glad to carry out experiments provided the manure was supplied to him free.

It was decided to discuss this at the Chilaw Coconut Trial Ground Meeting on the 30th of this month.

15. **The desirability of experimenting with paddy using different manures and adopting the two systems of broadcasting and transplanting. The returns should be calculated by the acre and not by the fold, which is very deceptive.**—Mr. BEVEN remarked that the chief aim of the Agricultural Society should be to improve paddy cultivation. He observed that the cultivation of other products is chiefly in the hands of influential members of several Committees who gain knowledge of agriculture from books and various other sources. This, he said, was not the case with the peasant, who is extremely conservative and will not adopt improved methods unless their benefits are brought home

to him by object lessons. He suggested that object lessons dealing with broadcasting, transplanting at various distances with one, two or more plants in each hole, and with the manures to be used, etc., be afforded at every School Garden and as many places as possible. Mr. Beven dealt with the method by which the returns of experimental plots should be calculated. Co-operative Credit Societies should have granaries for the issue of seed either for cash or credit. Finally he referred to dry ploughing.

16. Mr. SAXTON said the selection of seed is another question that should engage the attention of the Ceylon Agricultural Society.

17. Mr. WILKINS was of opinion that Mr. Drieborg should be asked to report on the matter, and this was accordingly decided on.

18. **Shot-Hole Borer.**—Mr. PATTERSON who brought forward this question enquired whether the Government would appoint an Entomologist to study the life-history of the insect. In the discussion which followed, Messrs. Patterson, Wilkins, Petch, Bamber, Coombe, Gollidge, and Rutherford took part.

Mr. COOMBE was strongly in favour of burning the prunings as he thought the borer and its eggs were mostly in the young wood, whereas Mr. WILKINS upheld that burning was useless. In his opinion the borer was to be found still in the stumps after pruning. Collar-pruning was the only thing efficient, but this was too drastic a method.

Mr. RUTHERFORD said that as regards Shot-Hole Borer he was not sure that everything had been done by the planters that ought to have been or could have been done. He spoke in favour of legislation and said that Government ought to insist that tea prunings should be burnt. He welcomed the idea of having a special Entomologist to study Shot-Hole Borer, and pointed out that from a tea stump sent to him, he had extracted 531 beetles. That Government should institute legislation that would prevent the transport of plants from the Shot-Hole Borer districts, and that until this were done the spread of Shot-Hole Borer could not be checked.

Mr. COOMBE asked what would be the probable cost of an Entomologist, if the planters should provide one, but the CHAIRMAN could not answer this off-hand.

It was finally decided to ask Mr. Layard to present the following resolution before the Planters' meeting the next day:—

"That the Chairman represent to the Government the importance of appointing an Entomologist to study the Shot-Hole Borer."

D. S. CORLETT,
Secretary, Committee of
Agricultural Experiment.

Peradeniya,
October 8th, 1913.

RUBBER THEFTS.

Office of the Inspector-General of Police,
Colombo, September 17th, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association,
Kandy.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward for the information of your Association a copy of a "note" prepared by the Superintendent of Police, Colombo, on a recent case of rubber theft, and would ask your assistance and co-operation in dealing with the matter.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
I. E. DAVID,
Inspector-General of Police.

NOTE ON A CASE OF THEFT OF RUBBER.

1. An estate clerk in collusion with his assistant clerk succeeded in obtaining possession of a quantity of rubber from the estate factory. Knowing that there would be difficulty in disposing of it to any Colombo dealer, who before accepting the rubber would require a reference or a letter of introduction, the clerk devised the following scheme. He opened a bank account in a fictitious name with the ——— Bank in Colombo. He then opened negotiations for the sale of the rubber with Messrs. A ——— & Co., a Colombo firm of dealers. They at once asked him for a reference and he referred them to the Bank. Messrs. A. ——— & Co. telephoned to the Bank authorities who stated that the individual mentioned was a client of theirs and had a banking account with them. On the strength of this Messrs. A. ——— & Co. purchased the rubber offered, and as requested paid the money into the seller's account in the Bank. The same procedure was followed on a subsequent occasion. On a third occasion the Superintendent of the estate luckily obtained information that some of his rubber was being disposed of in this way and that 13 stolen cases had actually been despatched that day by rail. He wired to the Railway authorities at Colombo to stop delivery and called in the local Batemahatmaya to make enquiries. Enquiry revealed the fact that 30 chests of rubber left the estate on that day in question. The estate clerk had instructed a carpenter to nail up 30 chests ready for despatch round 17 of which he was ordered to nail three bands of hoop iron and round the other 13 only two bands. On the 17 cases the clerk directed the carpenter to stencil the following marks:—

Para
Rubber
Crepe
Nett
Name of estate.

On the other 13 he was directed to stencil the same marks omitting the name of the estate. After the marking had been done the 30 chests were duly loaded into two

carts and despatched to the local Railway Station in charge of the estate cart contractor. After the carts had proceeded a short distance the clerk overtook them and saying that he had omitted to mark all the chests correctly produced a brush, a stencil plate, etc., and stencilled on each of the chests with only two bands of hoop iron the name of fictitious estate which does not exist. He then handed the cart contractor two consignment notes one consigning 17 chests of rubber from the estate to the proper estate Agents and the other consigning 13 chests to Messrs. A. ——— & Co. from the fictitious estate. The accused were committed for trial and the clerk was sentenced to five years' and the assistant clerk to three years' rigorous imprisonment.

2. Under the Rubber Ordinance every dealer purchasing rubber is required to do so only from an individual personally known to him.—Every dealer is also bound to keep a register of all purchases and to enter in it against each purchase 'the name and address of the person from whom purchased' and 'the description and situation of the land in which the rubber was grown.' It is clear that in this case Messrs. A. ——— & Co. failed to comply with the requirements of the Ordinance, for they purchased rubber from an individual not personally known to them who gave a fictitious name and they did not ascertain where the rubber was grown, but entered in their register the fictitious name of the imaginary estate stencilled on the 13 boxes. They had, however, acted perfectly *bona fide* and believed that by obtaining a banker's reference they had complied with the provisions of the law. Section 8 (1) (b) of Ordinance 21 of 1908 is the section of law dealing with the point, and it is absolutely necessary that this section should be strictly observed by every licensed dealer in the Island, the Police have orders to enforce it strictly in future.—This Section 8 (1) (b) should be read with Section 9 (1) (e).

3. When rubber is offered to a licensed dealer by a person who is not personally known to him it is his duty if he desires to do business with him to satisfy himself as to the individual's *bona fides*. Personal acquaintance with an individual for the purpose of the Rubber Ordinance cannot be construed into meaning an acquaintanceship in some other connection such as banking, shipping, social, etc. It means an acquaintanceship in connection with dealings in rubber—the only subject with which the Ordinance is concerned. A dealer should therefore set about to satisfy himself that an individual offering rubber for sale is in a position to do so honestly. The question generally resolves itself into the following:—"Has the individual rubber trees of sufficient quantity and age to produce the rubber tendered for sale?" Not till a dealer has taken reasonable precautions to make himself acquainted on this point can he be said to be personally acquainted with the individual for the purpose of the Rubber Ordinance.

4. To assist dealers in satisfying the provision of the Ordinance in this respect it is suggested that when an individual not known to them offers them rubber they should

address either the Government Agent, the Assistant Government Agent, the local Police, the Secretary of the local Planters' Association or some planter of standing of the district in which the rubber is said to have been produced. The enquiry would take this form:—
 (Full name) ——— has today offered me for sale ——— lbs. of ——— rubber giving his address as ——— (full address) ——— and stating that the rubber was grown at ——— (name of estate or garden) ———. Please inform me if the individual in question is a *bona fide* grower of rubber and whether he can produce rubber of this quantity and quality from the estate mentioned."

5. It will be noted that the law requires the description as well as the situation of the land to be entered in the register vide Section 9 (1) (e). Such an entry as "Kalutara" therefore is not sufficient. The law clearly requires the name of the estate or garden to be entered. Licensed dealers should therefore take the greatest care to question all persons tendering rubber for sale as to the exact situation and name of the estate. Two examples are here given of the correct and incorrect method of filling up the form. That marked "A" is correct. That marked "B" is irregular and renders the dealer liable to prosecution:—

"A"
 "Weragodella Estate,"
 Pasdum Korale West,
 Kalutara.

"B"
 Kalutara.

6. Should inquiry from the district prove satisfactory the licensed dealer may safely proceed with the purchase. He would be well advised to file the letter from the district reporting that the matter was *bona fide*.

7. When rubber is tendered for sale to licensed dealers regarding which it is necessary for them to make enquiries it is advisable that such rubber should not be put up for sale nor disposed of pending the result of the enquiries, and if the result is not satisfactory immediate information should be given to the Police.

8. If all licensed dealers strictly carry out the provisions of Section 8 (1) (b) and carefully enter in the register the details required, it will be practically impossible for any person to dispose of stolen rubber without detection.

9. The penalty for the purchase of rubber from persons not personally known to the purchaser and the penalty for not making proper entries in the Rubber Register is six months' rigorous imprisonment or a fine of Rs. 200, and the law holds all partners liable for the acts and omissions of another partner or partners. Further a Government Agent has the power to revoke any license already issued or to refuse the renewal of a license expired.



DISPUTED COOLY BILLS.

Colombo Kachcheri,
 October 7th, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
 Planters' Association of Ceylon,
 Kandy.

Sir,

I have the honour to request you to be good enough to inform the District Associations for communication to Estate Superintendents, that they can get any particulars they may require about Cooly Bills, if they forward copies thereof to the Superintendent, Ragama Camp, direct. The present practice of addressing the Kachcheri from which they receive bills, entails delay.

I am, Sir,
 Your Obedient Servant,
 (Signed) H. R. FREEMAN,
 Government Agent, W. P.

Jesmond Dene,
 Colpetty, September 19th, 1913.

TO THE CHAIRMAN,
 The Planters' Association of Ceylon,
 Kandy.

Sir,

I have the honour to call your attention to a subject which I submit must have the greatest interest to your members, especially at this moment when the fall in the price of rubber renders the increased planting of rubber not only hazardous to itself but to existing estates.

I venture to believe that a new field of agricultural enterprise is one that your members would show the liveliest concern in.

I have recently paid a visit to that portion of the Island that runs from Puttalam to Elephant Pass, and there is no doubt that this country lends itself to proper cultivation with the uses of mechanical implements and that the soils are fit for the growth of all starch products: cereal and tuberos.

The abnormal increased demand for alcohol invites a careful study of the possibility of Ceylon entering this field of enterprise.

As you may be aware, Sir, the principal source of European alcohol manufacture is the potato, grown in the poor soils of Continental Europe.

As an example of Ceylon's ability to compete, I would mention that the average starch contents of potatoes is below 20 per cent., whereas in the East starch produce can be grown—yielding as great a weight per acre—and averaging over 60 per cent. starch alcohol manufacture is the potato, grown in the poor soils of Con-carbo hydrates.

To impress you as to the growth of the alcohol industry, I would venture to give you the figures of the output of various countries, viz.:—

Galls. in terms of 100 per cent.
 alcohol.

England	...	(1906)	110,860,000
United States	...	(1908)	582,340,000
Austria Hungary	...	(1908)	582,340,000
Russia	...	(1906)	920,040,000
France	...	(1908)	558,360,000
Germany	...	(1908)	936,122,000

So large has been the demand that the price has risen from 6½d. per gallon average in 1903 to its present price of 1/8d. per gallon, notwithstanding that the output has risen by over 200 per cent. in that period.

I would further add that the present tendency is to seek to convert the engines of all motor traction into alcohol motors as the increased power to weight and size is some 400 per cent. There is very little doubt that the near future will solve this problem and the increased demand be normal.

Apart from this, Sir, I would point out that the alcohol industry is a staple world's necessity, and is not a limited field of enterprise.

The immensity of the industry renders unnecessary any jealous or selfish, secrecy, and I shall be happy at any time to assist you in more deeply investigating the whole question and place myself entirely in your hands for that purpose, and should be happy to read a paper either before your members or a Committee of them, giving all facts, figures, etc.

I have the honour to be,
Yours obediently,
D. M. WEIGEL.

FEDERATION RULES.

October 4th, 1913.
Talawakelle,

THE EDITOR,
"Planting Gazette."

DEAR SIR,

I will open my letter by expressing the wish that the Federation may die a speedy death. The old rules have already done enough harm and the new ones will do a great deal more harm. This is a personal expression of opinion. I have, however, discussed the matter with many managers of large labour forces and I find that nearly all of whom I have consulted are in agreement with my views. It is also remarkable that of those with whom I have discussed the matter the majority are men who have had no serious labour troubles, and who have moreover a fairly contented labour force with moderate advances outstanding. As far as the proposed rules are known to the general public it appears that those who will gain most by them are the wise few who have not joined the Federation. Next to those are two classes who will gain. One class consisting of the unfortunate superintendents who cannot manage labour when they have got it. The other class those very unfortunate men who have to work estates in unpopular Districts. Those who will be the most penalised by the new rules are those who have contented labour forces and if left to themselves know how to keep them fairly contented.

To go into the whole question would take up more space in your interesting "Gazette" than you would be willing to allow to a private member of the planting community.

As far as the old rules were concerned the chief harm done was to make a certain number of coolies discontented and to raise advances on many estates where they would not have been otherwise raised. The coolies and kanganies got the idea that Rs. 40 per head was an average debt allowed by us. The result was that many of those who had lower debts promptly wished them raised to Rs. 40. Thus harm was done to many of those who were our most satisfactory and contented coolies. Moreover, there is no doubt but that many superintendents took on coolies when they got a white tundu at far higher average debts than they would have dreamt of paying before the Federation rules came into force. Both these causes contributed to raise the average debts where they would not otherwise have been raised.

The Federation also helped the non-federated in that those estates became more popular with coolies owing to the fact that they were not tied down by rules and regulations which were and are considered irksome by the kangany and cooly alike.

The new rules are more far reaching and affect more estates than the old and for this very reason will do more harm.

I am among the first to grant that some of the customs amongst our coolies are bad, but in spite of that I maintain that we are making a colossal blunder when we start to interfere with their customs. They are conservative people and hate to have their old customs interfered with by the doral or anybody else.

By the new rules I believe that we are not to be allowed to advance coolies anything over their registered debt. What about a wedding? The Superintendent is not always asked for an advance for a wedding but an advance is nearly always given either by the kangany or the Superintendent. By the proposed new rules the kangany would have no means of recovering this advance should the cooly in question wish to go to another estate. Is that fair to the kangany? We shall simply be teaching the cooly, who is at present a remarkably honest fellow as regards his debts, to evade his just and lawful debts. A most dangerous thing to teach him.

Why should a proprietor of an estate which is well situated be taxed in order to benefit the proprietor of an estate which is badly situated? That is what the Federation has done and will do to a greater extent with the new rules. If a man buys a badly situated estate he presumably pays less for it than is paid by the purchaser of a well-situated estate. He is therefore content with a smaller profit per acre from that estate. Again why should the incompetent Superintendent (by which I mean the Superintendent who cannot manage labour) be subsidised at the expense of the competent Superintendent? That is what is done by the Federation. Have we all turned socialists? Do we all belong to a mutual Society existing to help those who are in worse positions or who are incompetent than ourselves? Excellent in theory but hardly applicable to business. I suppose that tea planting is a business?

I am not ignoring or ignorant of the hard fact that we are in an unsound position as regards our labour in Ceylon, but I maintain that even that evil is most grossly exaggerated. Further in my opinion, and in the opinion of many, the attempted remedy of this evil is far worse than the evil. It has and will tend to make our position worse. I would rather have a highly indebted but contented labour force than a discontented one. The Federation whilst making our labour force discontented has at the same time raised our advances.

There is bound to be competition. Competition is healthy. Would you substitute co-operation for natural competition? Would you ask the far seeing (who invested in estates well-situated) and the competent in order that the short-sighted and the incompetent may benefit? That is the policy which has been adopted by the Federation and which they now propose to carry farther.

I grant that competition by advances is not a satisfactory form of competition. You may ask then how I would propose to remedy this. I most certainly would not try to remedy it by a number of rules which are both irksome to the managers of labour and to the members of the labour force. I have put forth my remedy before both in the press and to members of the Labour Federation Committee. I would like to have legislation on one point and one only. That is to get an Ordinance passed that would compel every Superintendent to pay Rs. 25 (or some sum to be fixed) for every cooly locally recruited whether or no he were a recent recruit from the coast.

This Rs. 25 (or whatever sum was fixed upon) to be charged through one's expenditure. This would do a tremendous lot towards checking local recruiting and crimping of labour. More superintendents would then try to recruit from the coast. This would bring more coolies into the Island and the whole difficulty would be automatically adjusted. Given the supply and we would again be masters so long as we were just and fair to our coolies and knew how to manage them. I would ask for no other rules and regulations whatsoever. Leave the rest to the individual in charge of the coolies subject to advise and orders from those in authority over him.

If as is possible, this could not be effected by legislation how simple it would have been and would be to do it by Federation. With such a simple (and in my mind effective) proposal, to put before directors and proprietors how easy it would have been to get in the necessary number to agree. If as is stated they have got in nearly 80 per cent. to agree to the irksome and complicated proposals I should think that 90 per cent. would have subscribed to the proposals herewith set forth. I am convinced in my own mind that this and this alone would do far more to solve our difficulties than any other proposals that have to date been set forth. I would still like to adhere to my original proposal in this regard that the sum charged on discharge notes (be it what it may) be distributed as follows. A small sum to go towards the expense of collecting whether done by the P.A. or by Government. (In the case of legislation of Federation). That a further small proportion be paid to the Ceylon Labour Commission and the larger balance to the estate paying off the coolies. Say a sum of Rs. 30 were fixed upon I would suggest the following allotment:—Rs. 1 for collecting expenses, Rs. 4 to the Labour Commission, and Rs. 25 to the estate paying off the coolies. Consider the enormous income to the Commission by this means.

Even if local recruiting were checked by this rule and reduced to half the present amount an end devoutly to be desired the revenue at Rs. 4 per head for all coolies changing estates would be enormous. Thus a double benefit would result. Not only would local recruiting be checked and Coast recruiting encouraged but the Labour Commission would be able to enormously extend its scope of usefulness without having to increase the present acreage cess. In fact that latter might be reduced which would be just for as it stands it is not a very fair tax as well-situated and well managed estates with a settled labour force have at present to contribute equally with the more unfavourably situated places.

I must apologise for the length of this letter but would add as my excuse that I feel very strongly on the subject and am fully convinced that my proposal is the soundest yet put forward. This sounds very conceited, but in argument I have not yet found the man who does not agree with me when the matter has been put before him. I would be pleased to read discussion on the subject. I am aware that there would be strong opposition amongst those who have framed the present rules if it were suggested to amend them at any early date, but I would nevertheless argue that if a better proposal is put forward then the one which has just been agreed upon that no time should be lost in adopting the better proposal if it is acknowledged to be a better one.

I think that very great credit is due to the Committee of the Federation for having persuaded so many to agree to such complicated and contentious proposals.

I am, Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
A. M. COOPER.

P.S.—The all-important questions of better sanitation, care of children and mothers and *general interest in one's labour force* needs no special rules and regulations. These matters can be left to superintendents and V.A.'s. and Colombo Agents.

A. M. C.

[Talawakelle Estate appears in the list of Estates Federated under the new rules. Presumably therefore its proprietors do not agree with Mr. Cooper. This letter is too late. The time for putting forward new theories is past at any rate for the present. The new rules are on their trial, and however much a Superintendent may disagree with the decision of his proprietors to federate they deserve a fair trial unhampered by any suspicion of disloyalty. Mr. Cooper's suggestion is not new. Together with very many other suggestions its principles have been considered for several years past and have not found sufficient support to make them the sole condition of combination.—Editor.]

NOTICE.

Advertising for Bolters.

The Coast Agency Committee discussed at its last Meeting the expediency of advertising in the Newspapers offering rewards for coolies who have absconded or bolted.

It was decided that this practice is inadvisable and the Secretary was directed to publish this decision in the *Planting Gazette*.

JOHN STILL,

Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

NOTICE.

Tickets on the Railway.

I am requested by the Ceylon Labour Commissioner to bring to the notice of the Planters the fact that through Tickets (inclusive of steamer fare) can be booked from any Railway Station in Ceylon to any Station of the South Indian Railway. It is not necessary therefore to make large advances in Ceylon to coolies or kanganyes proceeding to India to recruit.

JOHN STILL,

Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

NOTICE.

A. Forms.

The following resolution was passed at the Meeting of the Coast Agency Committee held on the 12th September, 1913.

JOHN STILL,

Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

(Resolution referred to.)

"That subscribers should be informed that clause (a) on the back of the A. Form should be deleted, as, in the opinion of our legal adviser, this might be taken to grant leave for a period exceeding the one month for which a coolie's contract with his employer exists. This is to be notified in the *Planting Gazette* and to all District Planters' Associations. The Ceylon Labour Commissioner is to be instructed to omit this clause in future editions of the A. Form."

NOTICE.

Bangalore Agency.

In view of the difficulties placed in the way of emigration at Bangalore, the Commissioner has advised the closing of the Agency there, and the opening of another at Kuppam.

Unless strong reasons are given to the contrary, the above plans will be carried out as from 1st December next.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

NOTICE.

I would strongly advise superintendents of Estates subscribing to the Coast Agency Scheme who either contemplate or are in course of making arrangements with recruiters in South India either European or Indian to act as their Agents during the forthcoming recruiting season, to communicate with me prior to completing such arrangements. I have every facility for acquiring reliable information and am thus enabled to protect the interests of those whom I represent and serve in this country.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Trichinopoly,
14th October, 1913.

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION NOTES.

Monthly Report on Recruiting Prospect.

RECRUITING FIGURES.—81,911 coolies have been registered at the Agencies of this Commission this year up to end of September as against 73,754 for the same period last year. The total registered for the month is 9,228 as against 10,223 for the same month of 1912 or 995 less. Where the falling off is most pronounced can be gathered from the usual comparative statement appended.

HEADQUARTERS CIRCLE.—Puducottah is very bad. Similarly Manaparai, but owing to the latter Agency having been closed for all coolies except on tin ticket a large number of coolies recruited from this quarter of the Trichinopoly District now come direct to Trichinopoly Dépôt.

CHITTOOR CIRCLE shows a falling off of about 200 coolies as compared with last year mainly from Katpadi. The remaining Agencies are about the same. It is difficult to account for the reduction in the Katpadi figures, but it may perhaps be attributable to the fact that owing to the heavy percentage of coolies bolting after registration the Agent has been more discriminating in passing through coolies for Ceylon Estates. Katpadi is one of the worst centres for professional recruiting. The Telugu Agencies would yield better results if more support was given to them, the decrease in the average rainfall being very pronounced especially at Cuddapah where coolies are available and can be obtained.

MADURA CIRCLE shows a slight increase on last year. The rainfall in this district and Tinnevely is exceedingly

short. A state of partial famine is reported in the neighbourhood of Tataparai.

SALEM CIRCLE shows a further slight falling off which is disappointing considering the reports as to weather and crops.

PALGHAT CIRCLE shows a decrease difficult to account for, Dindigul being the only Agency that has held its own with September last year. Palghat itself is not doing well in fact, not much effort appears to be made to recruit Malayalams except by a few Estates.

WEATHER.—Judging by the weather reports, the average rainfall is very much lower than last year, and I hear that in some parts of South India dry crops have been almost entirely destroyed. At Cuddapah the rains are now on but have come too late to be of much benefit. Presumably the effects of this shortage of rain will be reflected in the improved recruiting figures at the commencement of the recruiting season next year. It seems to be that in some districts cultivators have been holding back waiting for the rain and its late arrival has consequently delayed Emigration.

A. FORMS:—Where Superintendents wish to grant these forms to individuals in South India with whom they are not personally acquainted I would recommend that before doing so they should, in their own interests, consult the Commission. I have lately had two instances where each recruiter held A. Forms for two different Estates and in one case the holder was a real bad character and caused loss to the Estate concerned. I have every facility for obtaining information for Superintendents as to the standing and integrity of residents in this country. A new A. Form book will be issued at the commencement of the coming year omitting the clause as to the period of negotiability and allowing for the insertion by the Superintendent of any special conditions desired by him governing payment and thus avoiding reference by letter which causes confusion. I would ask Superintendents to be good enough to enter on the back of the existing A. Forms any special conditions they may require to control the holder, as being a cheque the A. Form should carry with it prompt negotiability without lengthy references to Head office files and Agents Circulars which occasion considerable delay and consequent dissatisfaction to Estates concerned.

Preliminary Advance.—Seeing that complaints are numerous from kangannies and coolies that deductions are made from the above payment at various Agencies throughout this Commission, I strongly recommend Superintendents to insist upon their kangannies who are going to Agencies North of Trichinopoly breaking their journey to receive these payments at my Head Office from the hands of a European Officer who will in addition provide them with the Commission Advertisement, Recruiting Certificates, Telegraph Forms, &c., and give them the necessary assistance and advice in connection with their recruiting mission. The only Agencies where it is not possible for this arrangement to be carried out are Tondi, Pamban and Ammapatam. In the case of Tinnevely, Madura and Dindigul where the

readvance payment is appreciable it is worth the slight extra cost in rail fare to have these payments made at Trichinopoly. For all other Agencies the kangany has to pass through Trichinopoly.

Guntakal.—The Acting Agent of this place reports as under and I would recommend that only the best stamp of kanganies who have connection in this District are sent over in future:—

"Though the figure shows improvement yet I think it is small, when compared with the number of kanganies recruiting. No kangany produced coolies for registration since I took charge of this Agency, i.e., from 26-9-13. By this it appears that kanganies who have come down to these parts do nothing by way of recruiting, but idling away their time in their villages. If the kanganies exert their interest in favour of the work entrusted to them, we might expect more progressive improvement of recruiting during this year than it is now, for there is scarcity in these parts for want of rain."

Cooly Cloths.—The Commission is prepared to purchase Cooly Cloths on behalf of Estates on the following conditions.

Sample cloths will be procured locally from native cloth dealers and forwarded at the cost of the Estates for selection.

On the return of the selected samples the number of cloths required will be purchased, of equal quality to the

samples, and the cost of the cloths, rail freight to Tuticorin and a buying commission of Rs. per cent. will be charged to the Estate account.

If cloths are required for special events, such as Deepavali, at least two months time should be given for purchase and shipping. The cloths to fill an order of, say Rs. 1,000 or more cannot be obtained from stock in the bazaars in Trichinopoly, but would have to be collected from the native mills in the country.

The time required for shipping from Tuticorin to Colombo and delivery to the Estate would probably be two weeks.

Cumblies.—Should any Estate Superintendents require Cumblies for their coolies, arrangements can be made to supply same from the local gaol. These Cumblies cost Rs. 2-1-0 each, and although the price is somewhat high the blanket is superior to anything procurable in Ceylon at the same price.

Early notice should be given of requirements as the output of the gaol is about 40 cumblies per day only. A sample cumby can be posted to any Superintendent desiring name.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commission.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR SEPTEMBER, 1913.

District.	Taluq.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men Annas.	Women Annas.		
Karur Agency.						
PALGHAT CIRCLE.						
Trichinopoly & Coimbatore ...	{ Karur ... Dharapuram ... }	Fair	3 to 4	2 to 0-2-6	Fair	Coolies are available in the following villages, Nedoongoor, Aravakurichu, Vellakovil and Kangayam.
Erode Agency.						
Coimbatore ...	{ Erode ... Bhavani ... Gobichettypoliem ... Peria Dharapuram ... Satyamangalam ... Avanashi ... Udamalpet ... Pollachi ... Kollegal ... }	Fair	3 to 4	2 to 0-2-6	Fair	Labour is available in most of the villages in the Coimbatore District, especially in the Southern portion.
Dindigul Agency.						
Madura and Coimbatore ...	{ Dindigul ... Palani ... Periakulam ... Dharapuram ... Udamalpet ... }	Good	4 to 5	2 to 3	Good	There is very little work for coolies this month and labour is available in the Palani and Dindigul Taluks.
G. S. DUPEN, Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner, 28th September, 1913.						
G. S. DUPEN, Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner, 23rd September, 1913.						

G. S. DUPEN,
Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner,
28th September, 1913.

G. S. DUPEN,
Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner,
23rd September, 1913.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPETS FOR SEPTEMBER, 1913.

District.	Talug.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.	
			Men	Women			
			Annas.	Annas.			
Madura Agency.							
Madura	Madura	...	Fair	3 to 5	2 to 0-2-6	Good	The number of coolies going from the Madura District is on the increase, the Agency at Madura have registered over 500 this month.
	Maloor	...					
	Periakulam	...					
	Nelakottai	...					
	Thirumangalam	...					
	Palany	...					
	Dindigul	...					
	Ramnad	...					
	Thirupattur	...					
	Sivaganga	...					
	Mana Madura	...					
	Paramagudi	...					
	Kanavatty	...					
Palghat and Cannanore Agencies.							
Malabar	Palghat	...	Good	3 to 4	2 to 0-2-6	Good	Recruiting prospects are good in most parts of Malabar.
	Walawanad	...					
	Ponnani	...					
	Calicut	...					
	Ernad	...					
	Kottayam	...					
	Kurumbranad	...					
	Chirakal	...					
Salem Circle.							
Trichinopoly (Turaiyur Agency)	Musiri	...	3 to 5	2 to 2½	Fair, but almost all knaganies operating in these Taluqs have returned to Ceylon.	These taluqs want extremely advertisement which I hope to do shortly.	
	Peramballore	...					
Musiri Agency	Musiri	...	4	2	Good	Recruiting prospects are good as crops are bad, but as there has been plenty of rain lately the villagers' hopes have been raised and they do not seem so keen.	
	Kulitalai	...					
Namakal Agency	Namakal	...	Bad	2 to 3	1 to 2	Fair	Plenty of rain here also which the agriculturists are taking advantage of.
North Arcot (Tirupathur Agency)	Tirupathur	...	3	2	Fair	Fair as there has been plenty of rain, but not in time to save all crops.	
		...					
Salem - Atur Agency	Atur	...	4	2½	Fair	Owing to Magnesite works.	
	Salem	...					
Salem Agency	Krishnagiri	...	5	2½	Bad	Owing to Magnesite works.	
	Tiruchengode	...	4	2	Fair		
	Hosur	...	4	2	Poor		
	Utangarai	...	4	2	Fair		
	Omair	...	4	2	do		
		...	6	3	Bad		

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR SEPTEMBER, 1913.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men	Women		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Salem Circle.						
Dharmapuri Agency ...	Dharmapuri ...	Fair	6	3	Good	I hope to work through every Taluk in Salem thoroughly in course of time.
	Bangalore ...	Good	4	2½	Fair	
	Magadi ...	Fair	3½	2	do	
Mysore Province (Bangalore Agency)	Closepet ...	Good	4	2½	do	
	Kanagal ...	do	3½	2	do	
	Nelamangala ...	Fair	2½	1½	Good	
	Thod Bilapura ...	Bad	2½	1½	do	
	Hosu Kottai ...	Fair	3	1½	do	
	Anikal ...	Good	3½	2	Fair	
Nanjangode Agency ...	Nanjangode ...	Poor for want of rain.	5	3	Not good	Most of the labour from here goes to the Nilgri. Plague has broken out and the people do not seem at all keen on Ceylon and refuse to believe kanganyes.
E. V. B. LEVINGE, Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner.						
Trichinopoly Circle.						
Trichinopoly Manaparai Agency ...	Kulitalai Taluk	There is a failure in Dry crops for want of rain.	4	3	Good	
	Arantangi ...	Water-supply is insufficient in some parts. Standing crops fair. Paddy, Maize, and Ragi harvested.	6	4	Not good	Sowing of paddy and groundnut is in progress.
	Kumbakonam ...					
	Mannargudi ...					
	Mayaveram ...					
Tanjore (Tanjore Agency)	Nannilam ...					
	Negapatam ...					
	Papanasam ...					
	Pattukottai ...	There is a failure in crops.	5 to 6	3 to 4	Fair	Cultivation not begun for want of rain.
	Shiyali ...					
	Tanjore ...	Dry crops failed for want of rain and cultivation not begun for same reason.	5	2½	Not fair	Coolies are expected to go to Ceylon after transplantation and Depavali festival is over.
	Thiruthuraiipoondy					
	Thiruthuraiipoondy					
Ammapatnam Agency	Pattukottai ...	There is a failure in crops.	5 to 6	3 to 4	Fair	Cultivation not begun for want of rain.
	Arantangi ...					
Puducottah State (Puducottah Agency)	Kolatur ...	Dry crops failed for want of rain and cultivation not begun for same reason.	5	2½	Not fair	Coolies are expected to go to Ceylon after transplantation and Depavali festival is over.
	Alangudi ...					
	Thirumayam ...					
	Ambasamudram ...	Fair	8	6	Not fair owing to harvesting.	The wages are above the average rates only for this month.
	Tinnevelly ...	do	8	6		
	Tenkasi ...	Good	6	5		
Tinnevelly (Tinnevelly Agency)	Nangunery ...	Not Good	4	3		
	Srivaikundam ...	Good	6	5		
	Koilpatti ...	do	4½	3½		
	Sankaranainarkoil ...	Not fair	3½	2½		
	Thiruchendur ...	Good	4½	4		
Travancore State (Tinnevelly Agency)	Quilon ...	Good	4½	3½	Not fair owing to harvesting	The wages are above the average rates only for this month.
	Travancore ...	do	4	3½		

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR SEPTEMBER, 1913.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men	Women		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Trichinopoly Circle.						Coolies are coming in from Koilpatti, Thiruchendur Taluqs, as these Taluqs are very dry.
Tinnevelly (Tataparai Agency)	Srivaikundam ...	—				
	Thiruchendur ...	—				
	Koilpatti ...	—	4 to 5½	3 to 4	Fair	
	Sankaranainarkoil ...	—				
Ramnad (Pamban Agency)	Paramakudi ...	Not good				
	Tiruvadanelli ...		5 to 6	2½ to 4	do	
	Muthu Kolatur ...					
	Abyran ...					
Tondi Agency	Tiruvadanai ...	do				
	Tirupathur ...		4 to 6	3 to 4	do	
	Sivaganga ...					
	Paramakudi ...					
Trichinopoly.						
H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON, Ceylon Labour Commissioner.						
Chittoor Circle.						
South Arcot (Villupuram Agency)	Villupuram and other Taluqs	Groundnut crops very good. Good yield expected at the present stage. Paddy cultivation very discouraging owing to failure of rain and the absence of freshes in the river.	5	3	Fair	
Chingleput (Chingleput Agency) ...	Chingleput ...	Wet crops	5	3	Fair	The recruiting prospects are not better this month compared with the same month of last year, because there have been very heavy rains this month and all tanks are full. Villagers are engaged on the fields.
	Conjeeverem ...	good	5	3		
	Madurantakam ...		5	3		
	Ponnery ...	Wet and dry	4	2½		
	Saidapet ...	crops good	6	3		
	Tiruvellore ...		4	3		
North Arcot (Katpadi Agency) ...	Vellore ...	Dry crops good			Moderate	Labour is only available in Gudiyatham, Walaja, and Polur Taluqs, but not in the other Taluqs.
	Gudiyatham ...	do			Good	
	Walaja ...	do			do	
	Polur ...	Wet and dry crops good	4	2	do	
	Arni ...	Dry crops good			Poor	
	Arcot ...	Wet crops good			Bad	
Arkonam Agency ...	Wandavash ...	Dry crops good			Indifferent	Very few kanganies are working here. No Telugu kanganies to work in Telugu Taluqs. Telugu labourers are nearly starving and want of kanganies in all these taluqs is very much felt.
	Arkonam ...	Dry and wet crops fair			Good	
	Vellore ...	do good	4 to 5	2 to 3	Fair	
	Chenjar ...	do good			do	
	Thiruvannamalai ...	do good			do	
	Chittoor ...	do poor			do	
Chittoor (Chittoor Agency) ...	Kalahasti ...	do do			do	
	Karvetnagar ...	do do			Indifferent	
	Palmanair ...	do do			do	
	Vayalpad ...	Wet crops indifferent	2 to 3	2	Fair	
	Madanapalli ...	do do			Bad	
	Punganur ...	Dry & wet crops indifferent			Indifferent	
	Chandragiri ...	do do			do	

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR SEPTEMBER, 1913.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men	Women		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Chittoor Circle.						
Nellore ... (Nellore Agency) ...	Sooloorpet	... Paddy being sown	3½	2½	Bad	The recruiting prospects are bad owing to prevalence of cholera in Nellore town and its surrounding villages.
	Venkatagiri	... do	3½	2		
	Kovoor	... Paddy poor	3	2		
	Kavali	... do	4	3		
	Atmakur	... Paddy poor				
	Kandukur	... Cholum and Kambu harvested.	3	2		
	Udayagiri	... Paddy fair harvested	3½	2½		
	Nellore	... Paddy good	4½ to 5	3½		
	Rapur	...	2½	1½		
	Podoli	... Paddy and cholum good	2	1		
	Kanigiri	...	2	1		
	Darsi	...	2	1½		
Guntur ... (Guntur Agency)	Gudur	... Paddy good	3½	2	Bad	Only a very few kangannies work at this Agency. More kangannies are required.
	Guntur	... Dry crops				
	Satnapalli	... very fertile				
	Tenali	... Paddy very fertile	4	3		
	Bapatta	... fertile				
	Narsakowpet	... Dry crops				
	Gurzala	... very fertile				
	Cuddappah	... No rain, no crops	4	2		
	Pulivendla	... do	3	2		
	Kamalapuram	... do	3	2		
Cuddappah ... (Cuddappah Agency)	Royachoty	... do	3	2	Moderate Good do do do do do do	The dry and wet crops are still young.
	Rajampet	... Kambu growing under wells	4	2		
	Sidbout	... Little rain, no crops	3	2		
	Proddatur	... No rain, no crops	8	3		
	Badual	... Little rain, no crops	3	2		
	Jammalawady	... No rain, no crops	3	2		
	Anantapur	... Paddy not good	4	3		
	Dharmavaram	... Cholum fair	4	2½		
Anantapur ... (Guntakal Agency)	Gooty	... do	3½	2½	Bad Moderate do do	The dry and wet crops are still young.
	Kaliandrug	... Ragi bad	3	2		
	Uruvakanda	... Kambu fair	4	2½		
	Bellary	... Cholum and Kambu fair	5	3		
Bellary ... (Guntakal Agency)	Hospet	... Paddy not good	3½	2½	Moderate do Good Bad Moderate	The dry and wet crops are still young.
	Royadrag	...	4	3		
	Adoni	... do	4½	3		
	Konovelli	... do	3	2		
Kurnool ... (Guntakal Agency)	Kurnool	... Cholum not good	4	3	do do do	
	Nandyal	...	3½	2½		
	Thodapadry	...	4	3		

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner,
7th October, 1913.

Madras Observatory.

MEAN RESULTS IN MADRAS.

(Period from Midnight to Midnight.)

3rd Oct., 1913.	Actual.	Average.
Reduced atmospheric pressure ...	29.874	29.831
Mean temperature of air ...	85.1	82.1
Do do of evaporation ...	78.6	76.5
Percentage of humidity ...	74	77
Maximum solar heat in <i>vacuo</i> ...	139.3	141.0
Do in shade ...	93.0	91.8
Minimum in shade ...	78.2	76.3
Do on grass ...	76.9	74.0
Daily velocity of wind in miles ...	107	120
General direction of wind ...	E. by S.	S. by W.
Depth of rain in inches ...	Nil.	0.19
Rain since January 1st ...	9.27	20.22
Percentage of cloudy sky ...	15	56
Hours of bright sunshine ...	10.0	63
General weather on the 3rd	Fine	

(At 8 A.M., on the 4th Oct., 1913.)

Unreduced barom. readg. 30.057. Readg. reduced to 32°F. 29.905
Attached thermometer. 84.6 Rain since midnight...0.04.

WEATHER REPORTS. (8 A.M. to 8 A.M.)

Stations.	Pressures 8 A.M. 4th Oct.	Shade Temp:		Rainfall.		
		Max.	Min.	Past 24 hours.	1st April to date.	Average 1st April to date.
Port Blair	29.907	87.2	78.0	...	71.35	88.98
Diamond Island	29.922	86.9	66.5	...	109.91	95.77
Saugor Island	29.862	81.2	76.7	1.44	94.81	58.67
Gopalpore	29.876	87.2	78.0	...	29.22	31.59
Waltair	29.891	89.1	76.9	...	19.60	24.86
Cocanada	29.890	88.7	76.6	...	22.28	24.52
Masulipatam	29.880	89.3	76.2	2.00	18.85	25.71
Guntur	...	90.7	75.0	0.03	22.71	...
Nellore	29.861	96.0	79.1	...	9.75	13.45
Madras	29.858	93.0	77.7	0.04	9.17	18.67
Cuddalore	29.851	88.3	77.7	...	18.49	18.15
Negapatam	29.880	91.2	78.7	...	11.80	13.68
Pamban	29.839	89.7	77.8	...	3.13	5.64
Colombo	29.875	87.5	77.5	0.13	34.85	43.04
Trivandrum	29.900	84.3	74.5	3.01	38.80	42.10
Cochin	29.901	86.2	74.2	0.38	83.73	89.44
Calicut	29.895	84.8	77.1	...	89.44	101.45
Mangalore	29.904	88.8	77.3	...	92.22	117.46
Mercara	26.185	78.0	64.5	1.19	101.36	114.71
Karwar	29.890	85.2	78.0	...	92.23	106.61
Bombay	29.877	88.0	80.0	...	68.61	69.95
Hyderabad	...	...	...	...	...	...
Raichur	29.881	96.0	77.1	...	18.29	24.45
Anantapur	...	86.0	77.1	...	19.20	15.42
Bellary	29.854	96.0	73.8	...	10.56	14.29
Kurnool	29.880	96.5	75.6	...	11.21	22.27
Cuddapah	29.864	95.0	75.6	0.31	10.13	22.45
Hassan	29.905	82.4	64.1	0.15	32.62	26.15
Bangalore	29.870	83.3	68.3	0.31	20.18	26.22
Kodakinal	29.811	83.5	52.5	0.17	27.97	34.33
Ootacamund	23.052	70.0	52.7	0.24	31.59	38.66
Coimbatore	29.833	90.5	71.3	...	7.00	10.23
Vellore	29.868	81.7	75.5	...	14.69	28.35
Salem	29.916	91.5	71.8	0.93	23.22	28.68
Trichinopoly	29.879	93.6	74.3	...	14.95	17.37
Pudukottai	29.879	94.1	76.4	0.03	16.06	19.87
Madura	29.866	96.0	77.1	0.46	8.31	18.87
Tinnevely	...	...	...	...	6.15	7.77

NOTE.—The barometric readings are not reduced to sea-level in the case of hill stations the elevations of which exceed 3,200 feet.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

MADURA AGENCY.

The number of coolies registered this year to date shows an increase in spite of the fact that a large number of coolies are employed in the Mills in Madura.

G. S. DUPEN,
Assistant Commissioner

TINNEVELLY AGENCY.

There has been an increase in the number of coolies this year. A portion of the district is famine stricken and a good number of coolies came from there. This year there has been an increase of coolies from Travancore, but most of them are single male coolies and return to their homes after about 8 months work.

VILLAGE DEBTS.—The Agent informs me that an ordinary cooly seldom has debt of more than Rs. 10-20, and in the case of families of more than Rs. 30 or 40 for the whole family. This debt is only incurred if the crops are a failure and is generally wiped off by the succeeding harvest. As there are two crops a year in this district, it is doubtful whether coolies are really indebted for the large amount which Kanganies represent to their Superintendents as necessary to pay off their local debts. This applies to Tenkasi, Ambasamudram, Nunganeri, Tiruchandore and part of Tinnevely taluks.

TATAPARAI AGENCY.

There is a very large increase in the number of coolies passed through this Agency this year, and I have been informed that the number of coolies recruited locally has increased. This is due to the fact that there has been a very dry season in the neighbourhood of Tataparai and a state of partial famine exists.

N. H. M. BOWDEN,
Deputy Commissioner.

CANNANORE AGENCY.

Kanganies have a habit of bringing one or two coolies at a time to this Agency and keeping them there for two days at a time, this should be put a stop to.

The numbers of coolies registered are increasing, but very few Kanganies go to the Agency and those that do go are not a good class.

SALEM AGENCY.

The Agent accounts for the decrease in the recruiting figures by the increase in these figures at the old sub-Agencies: Atur, Dharmapuri, Namakal, and Tirupatur. This must mean that recruiting in and around Salem taluk is not so good as was thought.

J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,
Acting Assistant Commissioner.

BANGALORE AGENCY.

Naggamangala and Narasipur taluks are the best places for recruiting anywhere round here, though Tumkur and Hassan Districts provide a fair amount of labour. The Ragi crop has failed owing to no rain in Kunekal and Closepet

aluku, so that labour ought to be available in these parts. All the feeding Contractors about here refuse to feed coolies at the rate of 2½ annas a meal unless they are in large numbers, but want 3 annas a meal. The Agency figures how a decrease this year owing to Nanjangode Agency being opened lately and Kanganies avoid bringing coolies to this Agency if they can help it as they don't like having to take them to the Magistrate to be passed before they are registered.

TURAIYUR AGENCY.

The increase does not appear to be very astounding and the Agent thinks there will be a further slack now as the cholam harvest starts at the end of this month, and the crops promise to be fairly good. Most of the coolies passing through this Agency come from about 14 miles round.

DHARMAPURI AGENCY.

Penagaram, about 19 miles from Dharmapuri, in Dharmapuri taluk is about the best place for recruiting coolies near here. The crops round here are in a shocking state owing to no rain, and a famine is imminent unless they have some rain soon. Rice and grain generally are very expensive just now. Nobody will undertake to feed the coolies in the Agency premises under 3 to 4 annas a meal, and then the Agent says he receives frequent complaints that they are stinted in what they get. This dearth of food is due to the famine rates in the place.

ATUR AGENCY.

The best recruiting places about here are Mikapulloor, Gangavally, and Thulakanur. There has been plenty of rain lately so people are not willing to leave their villages at present. The Hotel Contractor here refuses to feed the coolies on the premises even for 3 annas a head.

TURAIYUR AGENCY.

Perambalur taluk and the surrounding villages provide the most amount of labour here. They have had a lot of rain here just lately. Coolies are fed on the premises, if they wish to be, at the rate of 2½ annas a head.

TIRUPATUR AGENCY.

Most of the labour in this part comes from in and around Krishnagiri, Vaniyambadi, Gudiyatham and their surrounding villages. At present the crops are in good condition and they have had all the rain they want. Coolies coming to this Agency are fed in the hotel as no hotel contractor will undertake to feed them on the Agency premises unless there is a large number of them to feed at one time at 2½ annas per meal. The Agent informs me that a lot of Kanganies have complained to him of being unaware of this Agency's transfer from Krishnagiri to Tirupatur.

E. V. B. LIVINGE,
Assistant Commissioner.

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION TRICHINOPOLY.

Comparative Statement showing the number of Coolies despatched monthly from each Agency during 1912 and 1913.

Agencies. Years. Jan. Feb. Total. Mar. Total. April. Total. May. Total. June. Total. July. Total. Aug. Total. Sept. Total.

Headquarter Circle.

Trichinopoly	1912	740	1,036	1,776	1,556	3,332	3,276	6,608	6,057	12,665	6,088	18,753	4,529	23,282	3,760	27,042	3,650	30,692
"	1913	994	1,201	2,195	1,453	3,648	4,081	7,729	7,639	15,368	7,193	22,561	4,723	27,284	3,772	31,056	3,410	34,466
Tanjore	1912	42	94	136	165	301	231	532	347	879	323	1,202	259	1,461	175	1,636	246	1,882
"	1913	109	146	255	149	404	192	596	347	943	447	1,390	318	1,708	160	1,868	213	2,081
Turaiyure	1912	5	32	37	6	43	28	71	137	208	215	423	104	527	41	568	96	664
"	1913	5	27	32	49	81	79	160	159	319	233	552	139	691	83	774	55	829
Musiri	1912	3	15	18	29	47	39	86	142	228	109	387	87	424	52	476	32	508
"	1913	20	4	24	8	32	132	164	202	366	206	572	177	749	122	871	82	953
Pudukotah	1912	89	108	197	121	318	166	484	214	698	348	1,046	272	1,318	339	1,657	605	2,262
"	1913	56	111	167	65	232	228	460	308	768	437	1,205	277	1,482	247	1,729	327	2,056
Manaparai	1912	111	103	214	135	349	129	478	344	822	297	1,119	319	1,438	331	1,769	272	2,041
"	1913	224	141	365	171	536	308	844	425	1,269	446	1,715	438	2,153	368	2,521	107	2,628
Total...	1912	990	1,388	2,378	2,012	4,390	3,869	8,259	7,241	15,500	7,380	22,880	5,570	28,450	4,698	33,148	4,901	38,049
" ...	1913	1,408	1,630	3,038	1,895	4,933	5,020	9,953	9,080	19,033	8,962	27,995	6,072	34,067	4,752	38,819	4,194	43,013

Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	Mar.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.	July.	Total.	Aug.	Total.	Sept.	Total.
Chittoor Circle.																		
Chingleput	1912	120	105	225	136	361	305	666	287	953	562	1,515	505	2,020	437	2,457	409	2,866
"	1913	99	132	231	228	454	424	878	440	1,318	492	1,810	556	2,366	422	2,788	405	3,193
Arkonam	1912	201	67	268	56	324	154	478	272	750	264	1,014	287	1,301	311	1,612	278	1,890
"	1913	87	112	199	78	277	164	441	240	681	342	1,023	368	1,391	258	1,649	275	1,924
Villupuram	1912	118	156	274	266	540	325	865	412	1,277	501	1,778	618	2,396	629	3,025	592	3,617
"	1913	166	177	343	328	671	388	1,059	682	1,741	654	2,395	582	2,977	544	3,521	531	4,052
Katpady	1912	216	257	473	140	613	177	790	292	1,082	415	1,497	577	2,074	499	2,573	591	3,164
"	1913	252	231	483	150	633	245	878	385	1,263	342	1,605	320	1,925	387	2,312	387	2,699
Coconada	1912	...	19	19	10	29	29	58	11	69	49	118	38	156	15	171	...	171
"	1913	6	15	21	37	58	closed	58	closed	58	closed	58	closed	58	closed	58	closed	58
Cuddapah	1912	4	11	15	22	37	2	39	34	73	22	95	37	132	18	150	26	176
"	1913	15	2	17	13	30	20	50	23	73	171	244	132	376	18	394	46	440
Nellore	1912	9	...	9	18	27	2	29	...	29	29	58	9	67	...	67	...	67
"	1913	17	25	42	52	94	9	103	17	120	6	126	13	139	2	141	6	147
Guntur	1912	...	63	63	8	71	155	226	43	269	27	296	33	329	8	337	...	337
"	1913	...	...	...	...	...	22	22	5	27	111	138	3	141	14	155	11	166
Chittoor	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	2	2	13	15	14	29	22	51	27	78	32	110	15	125
Anantapur	1912	89	24	113	13	126	...	126	...	126	...	126	...	126	...	126	...	126
"	1913	closed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ..	1912	757	702	1,459	669	2,128	1,149	3,277	1,351	4,628	1,869	6,497	2,104	8,601	1,917	10,518	1,896	12,414
"	1913	642	694	1,336	883	2,219	1,285	3,504	1,806	5,310	2,140	7,450	2,001	9,451	1,677	11,128	1,676	12,804

Madura Circle

Tataparai	1912	256	191	447	312	759	265	1,024	522	1,546	607	2,153	573	2,726	511	3,237	446	3,683
"	1913	267	352	619	433	1,052	761	1,813	741	2,554	801	3,355	678	4,033	620	4,653	742	5,395
Madura	1912	275	255	530	293	823	355	1,178	603	1,781	563	2,344	537	2,881	639	3,520	624	4,144
"	1913	220	162	382	149	531	421	952	787	1,739	766	2,505	616	3,121	609	3,730	577	4,307
Tinnevely	1912	94	122	216	136	352	174	526	247	773	291	1,064	340	1,404	260	1,664	192	1,856
"	1913	121	88	209	147	356	238	594	364	958	399	1,357	400	1,757	251	2,008	289	2,297
Ammapatam	1912	8	54	62	60	122	119	241	142	383	240	623	228	851	138	989	15	1,004
"	1913	43	43	86	49	135	130	265	179	444	174	618	109	727	183	910	141	1,051
Tondi	1912	109	177	286	134	420	329	749	321	1,070	860	1,430	423	1,853	204	2,057	585	2,642
"	1913	111	109	220	129	349	215	564	406	970	439	1,409	402	1,811	150	1,961	257	2,218
Pamban	1912	8	14	22	89	111	20	131	70	201	93	294	132	426	100	526	86	612
"	1913	11	17	28	75	103	43	146	78	224	68	292	75	367	67	434	71	505
Total ..	1912	750	813	1,563	1,024	2,587	1,262	3,849	1,905	5,754	2,154	7,908	2,233	10,141	1,852	11,993	1,948	13,941
"	1913	773	771	1,544	982	2,526	1,808	4,334	2,555	6,889	2,647	9,536	2,280	11,816	1,880	13,696	2,077	15,773

Salem Circle.

Salem	1912	126	132	258	157	415	362	777	326	1,103	313	1,416	346	1,762	456	2,218	457	2,675
"	1913	63	124	187	210	397	226	623	217	840	168	1,008	166	1,174	185	1,359	185	1,544
Bangalore	1912	23	17	40	14	54	37	91	57	148	34	182	64	246	53	299	18	317
"	1913	22	29	51	18	69	14	83	35	118	nil	118	50	168	24	192	24	216
Guntakal	1912	6	16	22	4	26	9	35	24	59	32	91	27	118	45	163	25	188
"	1913	76	31	107	81	188	96	284	87	371	81	452	75	527	58	585	76	661
Hubli	1912	...	27	27	12	39	31	70	44	114	10	124	39	163	16	179	34	213
"	1913	19	25	44	2	46	closed	46	closed	46	closed	46	closed	46	closed	46	closed	46
Tirupattur	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	22	22	15	37	34	71	14	85	14	99	12	111	27	138	30	168
Namakkal	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	18	15	33	58	91	55	146	83	229	87	316	69	385	78	463	69	532
Dharmapuri	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	35	35	36	71	30	101	14	115	13	128	59	187	30	217	55	272
Atur	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	3	26	29	48	77	61	138	44	182	67	249	39	288	66	354	37	391
Nanjangode	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	...	...	12	12	28	40	29	69	19	88	18	106	31	137	20	157
Total ..	1912	155	192	347	187	534	439	973	451	1,424	389	1,813	476	2,289	570	2,859	534	3,393
"	1913	201	307	508	480	988	544	1,532	523	2,055	449	2,504	488	2,992	499	3,491	496	3,987

THE PLANTING GAZETTE.

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Agencies. Years. Jan. Feb. Total. Mar. Total. April. Total. May. Total. June. Total. July. Total. Aug. Total. Sept. Total.

Palghat Circle.

Erode	1912	134	135	269	144	413	224	637	302	939	174	1,113	202	1,315	173	1,488	274	1,762
"	1913	145	187	332	262	594	211	805	216	1,021	274	1,295	179	1,474	180	1,654	196	1,850
Dindigul	1912	75	90	165	139	304	242	546	289	835	295	1,130	357	1,487	373	1,860	304	2,164
"	1913	168	154	322	178	500	263	763	403	1,166	357	1,523	828	1,851	274	2,125	318	2,443
Karur	1912	46	67	113	83	196	118	314	96	410	118	528	119	647	198	845	196	1,041
"	1913	64	71	135	61	196	147	343	184	527	87	614	103	717	92	809	135	944
Palghat	1912	36	66	102	56	158	62	220	82	302	167	469	178	647	173	820	170	990
"	1913	84	90	174	71	245	41	286	105	391	91	482	140	622	134	756	101	857
Tirur	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	6	5	11	10	21	closed	21	closed	21	closed	21	closed	21	closed	21	closed	21
Cannanore	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	1913	...	2	2	15	17	9	26	10	36	56	92	19	111	73	184	35	219

Total	...	1912	291	358	649	422	1071	646	1717	769	2486	754	3240	856	4096	917	5013	944	5,957
"	...	1913	467	509	976	597	1573	671	2244	918	3162	865	4027	769	4796	753	5549	785	6,334

Grand Total	1912	2943	3453	6396	4314	10710	7365	18075	11717	29792	12546	42338	11239	53577	9954	63531	10,228	73754
"	1913	3491	3911	7402	4837	12239	9328	21567	14882	36449	15063	51512	11610	63122	9561	72683	9,228	81911

COOLY STATISTICS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 1913.

AGENCIES.	PREVIOUSLY.	TOTAL.	SEPTEMBER.	TOTAL.	TOTAL.	G. TOTAL.
	M. F. Ch. Infts. Total.	M. F. Ch. Infts. Total.	M. F. Ch. Infts. Total.	M. F. Ch. Infts. Total.		
HEADQUARTERS CIRCLE:—						
1. Trichinopoly	...	16,851 6,097 5,937 2,171 31,056	1,966 662 555 227 3,410	18,817 6,759 6,492 2,398 34,466		
2. Tanjore	...	1,255 323 178 112 1,868	157 34 15 7 213	1,412 357 193 119 2,081		
3. Tiruvarur	...	364 183 146 81 774	26 13 8 8 55	390 196 154 89 829		
4. Munsiri	...	418 177 207 69 871	38 20 14 10 82	456 197 221 79 953		
5. Pudukottah	...	996 302 327 104 1,729	179 62 64 22 327	1,175 364 391 126 2,056		
6. Manaparai	...	1,676 461 295 89 2,521	60 23 18 6 107	1,736 484 313 95 8,262		

21,560 7,543 7,090 2,626 38,819 2,426 814 674 280 4,194 23,986 8,357 7,764 2,906 43,013

MADURA CIRCLE:—

7. Tataparai	...	2,836 914 583 320 4,653	407 136 126 73 742	3,243 1,050 709 393 5,395		
8. Madura	...	2,326 758 480 166 3,730	341 115 93 28 577	2,667 873 573 194 4,307		
9. Tinnevely	...	1,354 288 259 107 2,008	190 37 48 14 289	1,544 325 307 121 2,297		
10. Annapatnam	...	557 171 136 46 910	94 24 18 5 141	651 195 154 51 1,051		
11. Tondi	...	1,221 429 166 145 1,961	157 60 23 17 257	1,378 489 189 162 2,218		
12. Pamban	...	209 109 76 40 434	32 15 16 8 71	241 124 92 48 505		
		8,503 2,669 1,700 824 13,696	1,221 387 324 145 2,077	8,724 3,056 2,024 969 15,773		

CHITTOOR CIRCLE:—

13. Chingleput	...	1,605 657 271 255 2,788	247 95 31 32 405	1,852 752 302 287 3,194		
14. Arkonam	...	932 420 123 174 1,649	170 71 20 14 275	1,102 491 143 188 1,922		
15. Villupuram	...	2,180 793 317 231 3,521	319 116 38 58 531	2,499 909 355 289 4,059		
16. Katpadi	...	1,412 562 169 169 2,312	220 100 38 29 387	1,632 662 207 198 2,699		
17. Coconada	...	26 19 10 3 58	...	...	26 19 10 3 58	
18. Cuddapah	...	236 98 32 28 394	34 8 1 3 46	270 106 33 31 440		
19. Nellore	...	102 26 8 5 141	5 1 0 0 6	107 27 8 5 147		
20. Guntur	...	86 39 19 11 155	5 4 2 0 11	91 43 21 11 166		
21. Chittoor	...	61 26 15 8 110	13 2 0 0 15	74 28 15 8 125		
		6,640 2,640 964 884 11,128	1,013 397 130 136 1,676	7,653 3,037 1,094 1,020 12,804		

COOLY STATISTICS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 1913.

SALEM CIRCLE:—		M.	F.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.	M.	F.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.	M.	F.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.
22. Salem	828	262	183	86 1,359	127	32	14	12	185	955	294	197	98	1,544
23. Bangalore	156	24	6	6 192	20	2	0	2	24	176	26	6	8	216
24. Guntakal	417	100	46	22 585	63	9	3	1	76	480	109	49	23	661
25. Hubli	28	8	8	2 46	...	closed	closed	...	...	28	8	8	2	46
26. Tirupatur	85	27	16	10 138	10	11	2	7	30	95	38	18	17	158
27. Namakal	298	85	63	17 463	41	15	12	1	69	339	100	75	18	532
28. Dharmapuri	140	46	17	14 217	22	15	5	13	55	162	61	22	27	270
29. Atur	192	79	42	41 354	24	5	6	2	37	216	84	48	43	381
30. Nanjangode	93	28	10	6 137	17	2	1	0	20	110	30	11	6	157
			2,237	659	391	204 3,491	324	91	43	38	496	2,561	750	434	242	3,985

PALGHAT CIRCLE:—

31. Erode	...	...	1069	328	120	137 1,654	136	33	22	5	196	1,205	361	142	142	1,850
32. Dindigul	...	...	1339	447	207	132 2,125	208	68	20	22	318	1,547	515	227	154	2,444
33. Karur	...	...	474	149	131	55 809	94	14	19	8	135	568	163	150	63	941
34. Palghat	...	...	582	94	56	24 756	80	10	7	4	101	662	104	63	28	857
35. Tirur	...	...	14	4	2	1 21	...	closed	closed	...	...	14	4	2	1	21
36. Cannanore	...	...	123	27	25	9 184	35	0	0	0	35	158	27	25	9	214
TOTAL.			3,601	1049	541	358 5,549	553	125	68	39	785	4,154	1174	609	397	6,339

GRAND TOTAL.

42,541 14,560 10,686 4,896 72,683 5,537 1,814 1,239 638 9228 48,078 16,374 11,925 5,534 81,911

*1912.....73,754

EXTRACTS FROM THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER'S AGENCY REPORT.

Salem Circle.

Palghat Circle.

KARUR.—The figures show a decrease in the number of coolies registered: I do not think Karur is a good place for an Agency as very few kanganyies go there. The number of coolies who have refused have been rejected or have bolted is fairly high.

* * * * *

ERODE.—Bolting after registration is still high. I hope the Agent will be able to reduce the figures. The increase in the number of coolies registered is not much in excess of last year, the reason is that a good many kanganyies instead of registering their coolies at Erode take them to Dindigul and Madura and register them at these places so that they escape detention at Trichy.

* * * * *

MUSIRI.—All the labour passing through this Agency comes from the surrounding villages in this Taluk. The crops are very poor everywhere owing to no rain. There has just been two days rain this week. Coolies are fed in the hotel and are charged by the Agent at the rate of 2½ as. a meal, but he says they always have to pay another half anna to the Hotel Contractor out of their own pockets

* * * * *

PALGHAT.—There is a decrease of 54 coolies up to date this year, but this is owing to the fact that the coolies further West are now registered at the Cannanore Agency instead of this one. I have noticed that more women and children have been going to Ceylon this year than formerly. Several Malayalees have returned from the estates and have recruited their own relations, this is the only way to get good Malayalee labour.

SUPPLEMENT TO PART II. OF
THE FORT ST. GEORGE GAZETTE.

ABSTRACT OF SEASON REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 1TH OCTOBER, 1913.

RAINFALL AND PRICES OF STAPLE FOOD-GRAINS.

Districts.	RAINFALL IN INCHES.			PRICE IN SEERS (OF 80 TOLAS) PER RUPEE.											
	In the week.	Up to the end of the week from 1st April.		Rice.			Ragi.			Cholam.			Cumbe.		
		1913.	Average of 40 years.	Average for Oct.*	Last week.	This week.	Avg. for Oct.*	Last week.	This week.	Average for Oct.*	Last week.	This week.	Average for Oct.*	Last week.	This week.
<i>Circars.</i>															
Ganjam ...	1.4	35.1	35.6	10.4	8.8	9.0	20.5	15.6	16.1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wizaga- patam. { A. ...	1.5	51.6	50.4	10.0	8.4	8.3	19.1	16.0	16.0	...	16.3	16.0	21.3	17.3	17.3
{ L. ...	1.8	25.8	30.6		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Godavari ...	1.6	27.6	29.8	10.2	7.6	7.5	17.8	13.7	13.6	17.2	14.6	14.6	...	17.5	17.2
Kistna ...	1.3	19.9	28.2	9.7	7.1	7.0	16.9	13.4	13.4	14.8	11.7	11.7	...	14.8	14.8
Guntur ...	1.0	19.5	21.9	10.5	7.2	7.2	...	14.9	14.9	15.5	12.4	12.5	17.1	12.9	13.0
<i>Decoan.</i>															
Kurnool ...	0.7	13.7	20.9	9.7	6.6	6.7	...	14.9	14.9	20.3	13.1	13.0	16.1	11.0	11.0
Banganapalle ...	2.3	16.1	19.3	...	6.5	6.5	...	...	...	...	13.5	13.5	...	...	...
Bellary ...	1.9	16.4	17.9	8.9	6.9	6.8	...	14.4	15.6	17.1	12.7	12.8	...	...	...
Sandur ...	2.8	22.5	22.4	...	7.0	7.0	...	...	...	...	13.4	14.4	...	...	...
Anantapur ...	...	...	17.2	10.0	7.3	...	20.3	14.5	...	17.9	13.2	...	17.7	12.9	...
Cuddapah ...	1.3	12.0	18.5	9.3	7.2	7.2	18.0	13.7	13.8	18.5	12.8	12.8	17.4	11.7	12.4
<i>Carnatic.</i>															
Nellore ...	0.8	12.1	14.2	11.0	7.7	7.7	16.8	14.1	14.2	15.8	12.6	12.7	17.3	12.1	12.5
Chingleput ...	2.0	15.1	20.3	9.6	7.6	7.7	14.4	11.9	11.9	...	...	...	...	...	...
Madras ...	1.0	9.0	18.9	8.5	6.9	6.9	15.0	11.6	11.3	...	...	...	...	...	...
South Arcot.	1.1	17.7	21.8	9.9	6.8	6.8	16.9	11.5	11.5	...	...	...	16.7	9.7	9.7
<i>Central.</i>															
Chittoor ...	3.2	14.0	20.5	10.6	8.3	8.3	17.7	13.1	13.2	...	...	...	16.0	11.5	11.7
North Arcot.	3.5	15.7	23.2	10.1	7.4	7.4	17.1	12.3	12.3	...	...	...	17.4	11.1	11.2
Salem ...	3.8	22.2	22.5	9.2	7.0	7.0	16.9	13.0	13.0	15.9	11.8	11.6	17.6	11.6	11.8
Coimbatore ...	1.9	11.6	15.7	9.2	7.1	7.1	17.1	13.4	13.5	16.3	11.3	11.3	15.3	12.1	12.1
Trichinopoly.	2.8	16.6	18.3	9.3	6.5	6.5	18.6	12.8	13.1	16.7	11.8	11.7	15.4	10.7	10.6
<i>South.</i>															
Tanjore ...	1.1	13.8	17.2	9.8	7.1	7.1	16.9	13.4	13.1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pudukkottai.	1.8	15.8	17.0	...	6.5	6.5	...	12.1	12.1	...	12.3	12.3	...	10.7	10.7
Madura ...	1.2	12.4	15.4	9.7	6.8	6.8	17.5	12.6	12.5	15.5	13.0	12.9	14.8	11.4	11.2
Ramnad ...	1.1	8.2	9.9	9.5	6.7	6.7	16.2	12.9	13.3	15.9	11.8	12.6	12.8	11.4	11.1
Tinnevely ...	0.3	4.7	6.8	10.1	7.3	7.2	17.4	13.9	13.5	17.1	13.9	13.9	13.0	12.3	11.9
<i>West Coast.</i>															
Malabar ...	4.5	86.1	103.3	9.6	7.1	7.3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
South Canara	4.2	111.6	136.0	10.9	8.5	8.9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Travancore ...	5.2	38.9	42.2	...	6.8	6.8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cochin ...	2.5	75.8	90.3	...	7.7	7.5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<i>Hills.</i>															
The Nilgiris.	2.8	47.2	47.6	8.1	6.4	6.6	14.2	11.3	11.1	...	...	...	...	...	...

A.—Agency. * Average of the 15 years ending 1912-13. II. Sup. 4. L.—Littoral. † Revised figure.
 N.B.—The Ceylon Directory states that 34 seers = one English bushel. The formula for reducing these quotations of seers per Rupee into quotations of Rupees per bushel will be the number of seers divided by 34 = number of Rupees per bushel; which may be stated as $\text{Rs. } \frac{34}{s} = \text{PRICE}$. Viz., Trichinopoly this week shows Rice @ 6.5 seers per Rupee; $\text{Rs. } \frac{34}{6.5} = \text{Rs. } 5.23$ —Five Rupees and Twenty-three cents per bushel.—ED.

DISTRICT REPORTS.

GUNTUR.

Water-supply sufficient. Preparing lands for sowing variga and transplanting of chillies and tobacco proceeding. Standing crops fair to good. Harvested cumbu and korra, outturn poor to normal; maize, poor to fair. Pasture and fodder sufficient. Condition of cattle good, but black-quarter in one taluk. Employment available. Grain-stocks sufficient. Prospects fair.

BANGANAPALLE.

Water-supply sufficient. Sowing of cholam and cotton in progress. Standing crops fair. Pasture scanty; fodder sufficient. Condition of cattle good. Employment available. Grain-stocks sufficient. Prospects generally fair.

SANDUR.

Water-supply sufficient. Sowing of korra and horsegram and weeding of cholam in progress. Standing crops fair to good. Pasture sufficient; fodder scanty. Condition of cattle good. Employment available. Grain-stock sufficient.

CUDDAPAH.

Water-supply insufficient in tanks; freshes in six rivers. Ploughing, sowing of paddy, cholam, cotton, groundnut, ragi and horsegram, weeding and transplanting of paddy and ragi in progress in parts. Standing crops fair. Harvested cumbu and korra, outturn poor to normal; indigo, fair to normal. Pasture scanty; fodder available. Condition of cattle generally good, but quarter-ill prevails in two villages. Employment available. Grain-stocks sufficient. Prospects good but more rain needed.

NELLORE.

Water-supply insufficient except in delta; freshes in the Penner and some streams. Depths of water over Nellore unikat, 1.9 feet. Ploughing, sowing of paddy, aruga, cotton, oilseeds and korra, cumbu and cholam and weeding in progress in parts. Standing crops generally good. Harvested paddy, outturn normal; cumbu ragi and cholam, fair to normal. Pasture insufficient; fodder sufficient. Condition of cattle generally good, but anthrax, black-quarter, rinderpest and malignant sorethroat in parts. Employment available. Grain-stocks sufficient. Prospects generally good.

CHINGLEPUT.

Water-supply sufficient. Ploughing, sowing of paddy, ragi, varagu and pulses, weeding of paddy and groundnut and transplanting of paddy and ragi in progress in parts. Standing crops generally fair. Harvested paddy, ragi, cumbu, indigo and gingelly; outturn fair. Pasture and fodder generally available. Condition of cattle good, but anthrax in one taluk. Employment available. Grain-stocks sufficient. Prospects fair, but more rain required.

MADRAS.

Employment available. Grain-stocks sufficient.

SOUTH ARCOT.

Water-supply insufficient except in five taluks and part of another; slight freshes in two rivers. Ploughing, sowing of paddy, cumbu, varagu, horsegram and groundnut, weeding of paddy and groundnut and transplanting of paddy in progress in parts. Standing crops fair. Harvested paddy, ragi, cumbu, gingelly and groundnut; outturn fair. Pasture and fodder available. Condition of cattle generally good. Employment available. Grain-stocks sufficient. Prospects fair, but want of rain felt in one taluk.

CHITTOOR.

Water-supply generally sufficient. Ploughing and sowing of paddy, ragi and horsegram in progress in parts. Standing crops generally fair. Harvested paddy, outturn fair to normal; ragi, fair; cumbu, poor to fair. Pasture scarce in one division and fodder generally available. Condition of cattle generally good, but diarrhoea, anthrax and blackquarter in parts. Employment available. Grain-stocks sufficient. Prospects generally fair.

NORTH ARCOT.

Water-supply insufficient in parts of one taluk and one division. Ploughing, sowing of paddy and groundnut and transplanting of paddy in progress in parts. Standing crops generally good. Harvested paddy, ragi, cumbu and groundnut; outturn fair to normal. Pasture generally available; fodder available. Condition of cattle generally good. Employment available. Grain-stocks sufficient. Prospects generally fair.

SALEM.

Water-supply generally sufficient. Sowing of paddy, ragi, cumbu, cholam and horsegram and transplanting of paddy in progress in parts. Standing crops fair. Harvested paddy, outturn fair to normal; ragi, cumbu, cholam and groundnut, poor to fair. Pasture, sufficient; fodder available. Condition of cattle generally good. Employment available. Grainstocks sufficient. Prospects fair.

COIMBATORE.

Water-supply insufficient in parts; 12 feet of water in Cauvery at Erode. Ploughing, sowing of ragi, cholam and cumbu and transplanting of paddy and ragi in progress in parts. Standing crops fair to good except in parts where crops require rain. Harvested paddy and ragi in parts; outturn fair to normal. Pasture scanty; fodder generally available. Condition of cattle generally good. Employment available. Grain-stocks generally sufficient. Prospects generally fair; more rain required in parts.

TRICHINOPOLY.

Water-supply insufficient except under river channels and in parts under tanks. Sowing of paddy, cholam, ragi and cumbu and transplanting of paddy in progress. Standing crops fair. Harvested paddy, ragi, cumbu and cholam in parts; outturn fair to normal. Pasture and fodder generally sufficient. Condition of cattle good. Employment available. Grain-stocks sufficient. Prospects fair.

TANJORE.

Water-supply insufficient in parts of two taluks; 3.3 feet of water over Grand anikat. Sowing and transplanting of paddy in progress in parts. Standing crops generally fair, but fading in parts of one taluk. Harvested paddy, ragi and maize in parts; outturn fair. Pasture generally sufficient; fodder available. Condition of cattle generally good, but anthrax and other diseases in parts of two taluks. Employment available. Grain-stocks sufficient. Prospects generally fair.

PUDUKKOTTAI.

Water-supply sufficient. Cultivation of paddy, cumbu, ragi and garden crops in progress in parts. Standing crops fair. Pasture and fodder sufficient. Condition of cattle good. Grain-stocks sufficient. Prospects fair.

MADURA.

Water-supply insufficient except in parts of three taluks. Ploughing, weeding and transplanting in progress in parts. Standing crops fair. Harvested paddy and ragi in parts, outturn fair; cumbu, poor. Pasture available and fodder available except in parts of two taluks. Condition of cattle generally good. Employment available. Grain-stocks generally sufficient. Prospects fair, but more rain wanted.

RAMNAD.

Water-supply generally insufficient. Ploughing, sowing and transplanting of paddy and ragi in progress in parts. Standing crops fair to good. Pasture insufficient except in two taluks; fodder available. Condition of cattle good. Employment available. Grain-stocks sufficient. Prospects fair.

TINNEVELLY.

Water-supply insufficient in parts. No flow over Sri-vaikuntam anikat and discharge inadequate. Ploughing and transplanting of paddy and ragi in progress in parts. Standing crops generally fair, but paddy withering in parts. Harvested paddy in parts, outturn poor to normal; ragi and cholam, poor. Pasture insufficient in parts; fodder available. Condition of cattle generally good. Employment available. Grain-stocks sufficient. Prospects moderate; more rain required.

MALABAR.

Water-supply sufficient except in two taluks. Transplanting of paddy nearly over. Harvest almost over; outturn fair. Pasture sufficient; fodder available. Foot and mouth disease and rinderpest in five taluks. Grain-stocks sufficient. Prospects fair.

SOUTH CANARA.

Water-supply sufficient. Ploughing and sowing of second rice crop in progress in parts. Standing crops generally good. Harvest in progress; outturn fair to normal. Pasture sufficient, fodder generally available. Condition of cattle generally good. Employment available. Grain-stocks sufficient. Prospects fair.

TRAVANCORE.

Water-supply sufficient. Pasture sufficient. Condition of cattle good.

COCHIN.

Water-supply insufficient in parts. Harvest in progress. Standing crops fair. Pasture and fodder sufficient. Condition of cattle good.

THE NILGRIS.

Water-supply sufficient. Weeding of main crops and sowing in progress. Standing crops fair. Harvested tea and samai; outturn fair. Pasture and fodder sufficient. Condition of cattle good. Employment available. Grain-stocks sufficient. Prospects fair.

SEASON TELEGRAM TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT, SIMLA.

Week ending 4th October, 1913.—Rainfall very heavy Travancore; heavy Chittoor, North Arcot, Salem, Malabar, South Canara; light to fair Kurnool, Nellore, Tinnevely; good elsewhere. Standing crops fair to good, but require rain in some places. Harvests of dry crops and paddy over small areas proceeding; outturn poor to normal. Sowings of dry crops and paddy proceeding normally for most part. Condition of cattle generally good; supply of water insufficient for cultivation purposes in many places; fodder generally sufficient; pasture scanty many places. Prices stationary.

V. T. KRISHNAMACHARI,
for Secretary.

Dept. of Rev. Sett., Sur., Land Rds. & Agri.,
Board of Revenue, Madras,
7th October, 1913.



HAPUTALE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

KELBURNE-HAPUTALE ROPEWAY.

PROPOSED ADDITIONS TO P. L. F. RULES.

A Committee meeting of the Haputale Planters' Association was held at 1 p.m. on Monday, September 29th, followed by a general meeting, at the Bandarawela Hotel.

Present:—Messrs. J. W. Hyde (Chairman), W. Gibson, O. H. Warren, K. C. Lysons, E. H. S. Childer, Thomas, T. Hudson, C. L. Richardson, B. T. Heathcote, J. R. Bell, John Walker (visitor), Baker and A. Allen, Hon. Secretary.

MECHANICAL TRANSPORT.

Mr. John Walker, of Messrs. Walker & Greig, read out some interesting figures in connection with a proposed wire-rope way between Kelburne and Haputale. He was asked, whether, should the project go through, his firm would be ready to supply funds for cost of erection of same and also whether they would take it on as a working concern. While

regretting the inability of his firm to provide the necessary capital, Mr. Walker mentioned that he knew a certain Colombo gentleman who would be prepared to supply part, at least, of the original outlay.

A sub-Committee, consisting of Messrs. R. G. Coombe, B. J. Wyllie, K. C. Lysons, J. N. Scorey and C. M. Durrant, was elected to go thoroughly into the matter.

The Hon. Secretary was instructed to forward a copy of Mr. Walker's figures to all members who would be interested in this ropeway.

Mr. Walker was thanked by the Chairman for taking all the trouble he had done in connection with the proposed scheme.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Read letter from Badulla P. A. *re* European Medical Practitioner Scheme. It was regretted that, while this Association agrees with the idea as a body, they could not support the Scheme. With reference to the combined annual meeting of Uva Associations, this was strongly supported, and the Hon. Secretary was instructed to include in the next agenda "to elect members to serve at the combined annual meeting of Uva Associations."

Read letter from Dimbula Planters' Association *re* rate of batta to Supreme Court witnesses.

Resolved:—"That the Scheme be supported and in addition wish to state that Government should be asked to defray full hotel charges for any such witnesses.

Read letter from Sabaragamuwa Planters' Association *re* a cooly depôt at Colombo. This was supported.

Read letter from Maskeliya Planters' Association *re* heavy loss on rice.—Supported.

Read letter from Police Magistrate, Mr. R. G. Coombe, Postmaster-General, and Badulla Planters' Association in reply to a letter from this Association with reference to closing of resthouses.

A telegram was received from the Secretary, Planters' Association, saying seventy-eight per cent. had joined the Proprietors' Labour Federation.

Read letter from Manager, Ceylon Motor Transit Company, stating that the Company was ready to do transport business at a charge of 75 cents per ton mile for any distance.

PROPOSED DISTRICT LABOUR FEDERATION.

As so few members were present it was resolved that this matter be held over to the next meeting in January.

PESTS.

With reference to shot-hole borer their member on the Plant Pests Board informed the Association that nothing definite could be said or done in connection with this pest until the new proposed rules *re* eradication of shot-hole borer had come into force.

RAILWAY.

The CHAIRMAN informed the Association as to what works were being done to strengthen the Roehampton slip and also that Government were making arrangements to cope with the goods by means of a wire ropeway, should another slip occur again this year at the same place.

OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTS.

The Hon. Secretary was instructed to write again to the estates that had not paid their subscription for 1913.

PROPRIETORS' LABOUR FEDERATION.

Resolved that certain proposals as additions to the new P. L. F. rules should be sent to Mr. R. G. Coombe to be brought up by him at the next P. L. F. meeting as the Association's representative.

ELECTION OF SUB-COMMITTEE TO DRAW UP ANNUAL REPORT.

It was resolved that the following members do act on this Committee to draw up report for 1913:—The Chairman, Hon. Secretary, Messrs. B. T. Heathcote, and G. H. F. Lushington.

A vote of thanks to the chair closed the proceedings for the day.

A. ALLEN,

Hon. Secretary,

Haputale Planters' Association.

KELANI VALLEY PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Owing to the floods having carried away the Taldua Club pavilion the general meeting of the Kelani Valley Planters' Association was held at the Avisawella Resthouse on Saturday, October 11th. Mr. T. Hyatt presided, and there were also present Messrs. R. Bell, L. H. Cantlay, C. A. Hutchinson, P. G. Wood, C. S. Jones, H. Muir, D. T. Mackenzie, F. Lushington, J. Boucher, J. M. Mackenzie, A. J. Martin (visitor), P. Byrde, L. Bayly, H. Byrde, J. C. L. Brereton, A. C. S. Bowlby, H. E. Candy, and R. H. Villiers Hon. Secretary.

APOLOGIES.

Letters and telegrams were received regretting inability to attend from Messrs. Williamson, Carmichael, and Elford.

CORRESPONDENCE RE BATTA.

The Dimbula resolution was supported unanimously, while with reference to that from Maskeliya *re* rice it was decided that the matter be left with the sub-Committee appointed by the Parent Association for the purpose.

LIQUID FUEL.

A letter was read from the Asiatic Petroleum Company stating that liquid fuel could now be obtained from their Avisawella store at the rate of 21½ cents per gallon, naked, ex store.

TELEPHONES.

Mr. C. Hutchinson wrote asking what steps had been taken with reference to the telephone scheme, for which a Committee was appointed some time ago.

Mr. CANTLAY on behalf of the sub-Committee appointed to go into the matter and bring forward a district scheme said that he had obtained sketches and mileages from all sub-districts except Yatiyantota, upon receipt of which he would, with the assistance of Messrs. Hutson & Co., make out a detailed scheme which would then be sent over to all estates for their approval and support. He regretted the

delay in getting his scheme out, but undertook to have all ready by the date of the next meeting in January.

CATTLE DISEASE.

The following reply from the Colonial Secretary with reference to the Association's letter *re* cattle disease was read:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, 9th September, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Kelani Valley P.A.

SIR,

In continuation of my acknowledgment of your letter of the 9th July, 1913, I am directed to inform you that the question of increasing the staff of the Veterinary Department is under consideration.

2. The present staff of the Department consists of:—The Government Veterinary Surgeon (British qualifications), two Assistant Veterinary Surgeons (Bombay qualifications), seventeen Stock Inspectors. Promising Stock Inspectors are sent from time to time to qualify at the Bombay Veterinary College, one Inspector is at present undergoing a course of training there.

3. The Government Veterinary Surgeon as at present advised does not consider that permanent Inspectors are required at Avisawella and Yatiyantota. When necessary they are sent from Colombo and they then remain temporarily as long as they are required.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) D. W. ARNOTT,
For Colonial Secretary.

A discussion followed during which Mr. D. MACKENZIE proposed that a letter should be written to the Colonial Secretary pointing out the ridiculous shortage of veterinary surgeons, and the necessity for an Assistant Veterinary Surgeon being appointed to each province in the island.

Mr. CANTLAY seconded, and this was carried unanimously.

THE S. P. C. A.

A letter from the Ceylon S. P. C. A. was read as follows:—

Colombo, September 10th.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Kelani Valley P.A.

DEAR SIR,

I am requested by my Committee to place before your Association the following record of S.P.C.A. cases instituted this year under the supervision of the Hon. Agents nominated by your Association.

	Cases.	Convictions.
January	4	4
February	2	2
April	—	—
March	3	3
May	3	3
June	—	—
July	—	—
August	—	—

The cases taken on the lowest in number for any district in the Island. I am requested to enquire whether your Association is of opinion that the district is clear of cruelty, and that there is no further need of the services of a paid Inspector.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) LEWIS WALKER,
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, S.P.C.A.

It was decided that the Hon. Secretary should write in reply that the figures given suggested that the presence of a District Inspector prevented cruelty, and that his services should be obtained.

THE C. G. R.

The suggestion of the General Manager in the following letter was approved:—

C.G.R., G.M.'s Office,
Colombo, July 29th.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Kelani Valley P.A.

SIR,

I have the honour to inform you that the Government Agent, Sabaragamuwa, has suggested that the train now timed to leave Ratnapura at 5.30 p.m. for Colombo should be started earlier in order to give a longer interval in Colombo before departure of Up-night mail at 10.10 p.m. In order to do that it will be necessary to leave Ratnapura at 4.50 p.m. and run correspondingly earlier throughout, and I shall be obliged if you will let me have your views early as to whether this would be inconvenient for your district.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) G. P. GREENE,
General Manager.

K.V.P.A., Waharaka, Undugoda,
September 3rd, 1913.

To G.M., C.G.R., COLOMBO.

SIR,

I have the honour to request you to be good enough to inform my Association what progress is being made with the laying of stone setts at level crossings on the K.V.R. and when this work is likely to be completed.

I am, Sir,
Yours faithfully,
(Signed) R. J. VILLIERS,
Hon. Secretary,
C.G.R., G.M.'s Office,
Colombo, September 19th, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Kelani Valley Planters' Association.

SIR,

In reply to your letter of the 3rd instant, I have the honour to state that I think you are under a misapprehension regarding the laying of stone setts at level crossings. The only crossing to be paved is that situated at 35 miles 30 chain. Railway mileage between Puwakpitiya and Avisawella, and the work at this crossing will be carried out shortly.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) G. P. GREENE,
General Manager.

The Hon. Secretary was instructed to write to the General Manager and point out that nothing had been done at the crossing mentioned in his letter, but that the setts which had accumulated there had been removed and laid elsewhere, and to request that all level crossings be put in order as early as possible with what material and in what manner the General Manager thinks best.

BULATHKOHUPITIYA RAILWAY EXTENSION.

The full report of the sub-Committee, including minutes of all meetings held, leading correspondence, letters of support and a sketch of the country were laid on the

table. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Villiers and the sub-Committee for the trouble they had taken in the matter.

THE DISTRICT COURT.

The CHAIRMAN stated that this matter was still in abeyance owing to the delay on the part of the District Judge of Colombo in supplying the figures asked for. In further reply to the Hon. Secretary's letter which was read at the last meeting the following reply was received and replied to:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, 7th July, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Kelani Valley Planters' Association.

SIR,

In continuation of my acknowledgment of your letter of the 6th June, 1913, I am directed to inform you that the District Judge, Colombo, has been requested to furnish the statement applied for by you.

2. The enclosures of your letter are herewith returned, with the exception of the list of villages, which has been sent to the District Judge.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) D. W. ARNOTT,
For Colonial Secretary.

[This was acknowledged with thanks on July 17th, and the figures asked for shortly after.]

Waharaka, Undugoda,
August 21st, 1913.

THE HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

SIR,

In continuation of previous correspondence on this subject I have the honour to enclose letter from the District Judge, Colombo. If, as is stated, the officer appointed to prepare the figures required can only work at them out of hours and the number of cases is so great it would not appear likely that the final figures will ever be arrived at, certainly not in this generation. My Association, therefore, realising fully how great is the need for this Court at Avisawella, would suggest that a special clerk be appointed to obtain these figures and are willing to pay Rs. 30 towards his salary. If this were done the figures could without doubt be arrived at within a fortnight at the outside. Requesting therefore for further consideration of this matter,

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) R. H. VILLIERS,
Hon. Secretary.

After waiting some time the Hon. Secretary again wrote the District Judge, who replied that there were some thousands of cases to be gone through, and the officer appointed to go into the matter could only do so in his spare time, and that therefore it would be a long time before the figures could be given. It was stated that the letter had not yet been received from the Colonial Secretary. This letter Mr. Villiers forwarded to the Colonial Secretary in a covering letter of August 21st, to which the Colonial Secretary replied on September 2nd:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 2nd, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY, K.V.P.A.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 21st August, 1913, I am directed to inform you that the District Judge, Colombo, has been authorised to employ a special clerk for the purpose of compiling the statement applied for by you.

2. The salary of the clerk will be met from Government funds.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
D. W. ARNOTT,
For Colonial Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN said that here the matter remained and he suggested that Mr. Villiers be asked to write again, and to point out that though the appointment of a special clerk was authorised in the first week in September nothing had yet been heard from the District Judge, and to request him to take further steps to obtain the figures required.

This was agreed to unanimously.

HOSPITAL REPORT.

The following report on Karawanella hospital was read:—

KARAWANELLA HOSPITAL.
(Visited October 11th, 1913, 9 a.m.)

We were shown round the Hospital by the D.M.O., and all the staff were present. The number of patients in Hospital were men 77, women 41, total 118. The grounds were in good order but there were several homeless families encamped in the empty wards and verandahs, and their property was piled in various places. This was of course unavoidable after and owing to the floods.

Government might establish an engine to pump up water into tanks in central places in the hospital grounds at a cost of Rs. 5,000 as against Rs. 1,200 on the original scheme of laying on water from the hills.

Ten beds are needed in the female medical ward, and will be put in as soon as possible. The new kitchen and latrines are a considerable improvement on the old ones, and will be entirely completed before the end of the year in all probability.

There were no complaints, and the hospital generally was clean and tidy.

F. LUSHINGTON & H. E. CANDY,
for D. B. WILLIAMSON.

The Avisawella visitors regretted that they had not been able to make their report as intended owing to the floods.

A letter from the Hon. Secretary to the Government Agent, Sabaragamuwa Province, has as yet met with no reply, presumably owing to the floods, and the matter of this hospital has not advanced.

ROADS.

The following correspondence was read on this matter:—

K.V.P.A., Waharaka,
Undugoda, July 9th, 1913.

THE HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

SIR,

I have the honour to inform you that at a meeting of this Association held at Taldua on the 5th instant, the following resolution was proposed and unanimously supported:—

"That Government be asked to begin at once the strengthening of the bridge at Veyangoda so as to enable motor lorries to pass over."

ii. (1) I would point out that this bridge in its present condition blocks the only outlets to the main line from the Kelani Valley for anything like heavy traffic.

(2) That it has been in this condition for some years and, though the Public Works Department have from time to time promised to put it in order, nothing has been done as yet.

(3) Cart traffic having practically come to a stand-still and the advent of motor transport being imminent it is essential that his outlet be put in order, motor lorries at present being prohibited beyond old Veyangoda, three miles from Veyangoda station. Trusting this matter will receive your early attention.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) R. H. VILLIERS,
Honorary Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, August 14th, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
K.V.P.A.

SIR,

In continuation of my acknowledgment of your letter of the 14th July, I am directed to inform you that provision has been made in the estimates for 1913-14 for the construction of a new bridge at Veyangoda adjoining the old one and for the improvement of the first mile of the Veyangoda-Ruanwella road.

2. The preliminary steps for the acquisition of the necessary land for the site of the new bridge have been taken, and it is expected that the improvements, which include the raising of a portion of the road above flood level, and the construction of the new bridge will be completed during the present financial period.

I am, Sir
Your obedient servant,
D. W. ARNOTT,
for Colonial Secretary.

K.V.P.A., Waharaka,
Undugoda, June 1st, 1913.

THE HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
Colombo.

SIR,

I have the honour to inform you that at the meeting of this Association held at Taldia on May 3rd last, it was unanimously resolved to request Government to take over the section of this road between Woodend Factory and Algoda Causeway. This road when completed will link up the Avisawella-Ratnapura road with the Avisawella Dehiowita road via Woodend and Algoda thus saving the long detour via Avisawella to traffic between Dehiowita and Kendangamuwa, which will be very considerable. Government have already begun work from the Kendangamuwa end towards Woodend Factory, and when this section is cut, there will be through communication to Dehiowita. The section Algoda to Dehiowita is now kept up by the P.W.D., estates concerned paying a moiety. The section Woodend to Algoda, 2½ miles, is kept up entirely by estates under the D.R.C., and is in consequence a continual source of trouble. It is this section that Government are now invited to take over, as it would seem better that Government should take over the whole road than that one section in the middle should be left to estates alone. The road is now used by native traffic, who only pay Gansabawa fees for its use, and when

completed will carry a very large traffic both wheel and pedestrian.

I beg, therefore, to submit this matter to your notice and respectfully request your early consideration and approval of the suggestion.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) R. H. VILLIERS,
Hon. Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, July 21st, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
K.V.P.A.

SIR,

With reference to the request of the Kelani Valley Planters' Association (conveyed in your letter of the 1st June, 1913), that Government should take over the road between the Woodend Factory and Algoda causeway, Government is advised that almost the whole length of this road is under ordinary high-flood level and that portions of it are submerged and rendered impassable by every small flood.

2. In these circumstances, I am directed by H.E. the Officer Administering the Government to inform you that he regrets it is not possible to comply with the request of your Association.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
D. W. ARNOTT,

for Colonial Secretary.

Mr. CANTLAY read a long letter pointing out the damage being done to the Panawal country generally by the flooding caused by the Algoda causeway, and the absurdity of the upkeep of this seven miles of road being in the hands of three different bodies, and its importance as the only outlet for this large and populous district.

Mr. MACKENZIE followed with a well delivered and pointed speech on the same matter.

Mr. BELL moved "That Government be requested to make over the private section of the road, about three quarters of a mile, between Habanagalla and Woodend bridge, cut by Pambergama and Habanagalla estates, as an outlet to Dehiowita, pending the construction by Government of the road to Kendangamuwa."

This was seconded by Mr. CANTLAY.

Mr. VILLIERS proposed as an amendment that the Panawal members do jointly write to the Hon. Secretary fully on the subject giving all details together with a sketch of the district, to be embodied in a letter to the Colonial Secretary.

This was carried unanimously.

MOTOR TRANSPORT.

A letter from Mr. Sheriff Mitchell wrote that when he received the data from their Association as from other Associations he would be able to give planters reliable figures from which they would be able to decide on the mode of transport most suited to their districts.

AUDITOR.

On the proposal of the CHAIRMAN, Mr. C. S. Jones was unanimously elected auditor for the year, and the following Committee was appointed to draw up the annual report:—Messrs. Jones, Elford, and Duncan, and the Chairman and Secretary.

FEDERATION.

The CHAIRMAN stated that, though not on the agenda, he would like to say that the P. L. Federation was now an accomplished fact, and he appealed to them to do their best to make it a success.

THE NEW GOVERNOR: ASKED TO MAKE AN OFFICIAL TOUR.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed that the new Governor be asked to make an official tour of the district, and that the following Committee be asked to draw up a programme and arrange details:—Messrs. Elford, P. Byrde, Cantlay, Williamson, Carmichael, Bayly, Duncan, the Dissawa, together with the Chairman and the Hon. Secretary.

This was carried unanimously.

The proceedings then terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

RAMBODA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the Ramboda Planters' Association was held at the Ramboda Resthouse on Wednesday last at 9.30 a.m. Present:—Messrs. N. J. Wilson-Blackett (Chairman), J. H. Marcel, H. C. Lancaster, H. Fenning, P. L. Stewart, E. L. S. Agar, A. F. Howie, H. D. Bartlett, M. Ledger (visitor), and Chas. J. Marzetti (Hon. Secretary). Letters were received from Messrs. C. Newton, N. Rolt and H. Prior regretting their liability to be present.

The notice calling the meeting was read, and the minutes of the meeting held on May 13th last were taken as read and confirmed.

PROPRIETORS' LABOUR FEDERATION.

After a few remarks from the chair as to what had taken place at the recent meeting in Kandy, it was resolved "That this Association considers that a membership of not less than 85 per cent. is imperative in order to make any Federation scheme really effective."

The Hon. Secretary was requested to forward a copy of the above resolution to the Parent Association.

DISTRICT TELEPHONES.

This matter was discussed, and it was resolved "That the Hon. Secretary approach the Pussellawa P.A. and ascertain their views as to the desirability of a telephone service between Gampola and Nuwara Eliya."

MOTOR TRACTION.

A member having kindly placed at the disposal of the meeting certain correspondence he had recently had with Government on the subject, it was finally resolved "That, in view of the frequent outbreaks of cattle disease in Gampola and the consequent delays in the transport of goods to and from Ramboda and Pussellawa districts, Government be requested to provide motor transport at an early date."

It was decided to send a copy of this resolution to the Pussellawa P.A. for support.

RESOLUTIONS FROM OTHER DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

A resolution forwarded by the Sabaragamuwa P.A. with reference to forming a depôt in Colombo similar to the one in Tuticorin, with a staff of peons to meet the trains and escort the coolies to the steamer, received the cordial support of the Association, as also did a resolution from the Dimbula P.A. proposing an increase of the present rate of batta allowed to witnesses in Crown cases.

A resolution from the Maskeliya P.A. with reference to the high price of rice was also supported, the Chairman remarking that the Parent Association intended taking up the whole question of the coolies' food supply.

Mr. N. C. ROLT was to have moved "That the rate of rice be fixed for the district taking into consideration the difference of cart hire, and that a Committee be formed at a general meeting to fix the rate for every quarter."

In the absence of Mr. Rolt the matter was held over.

NATIVE GARDENS EMPLOYING TAMIL LABOUR.

A MEMBER drew the attention of the Association to the fact that a large amount of Tamil labour was being employed on native gardens at the lower end of the district, and it was resolved:—"That the Hon. Secretary write to the Hon. the Government Agent, Kandy, and ascertain whether these native proprietors employing Tamil labour are doing so in conformity with the Labour Ordinance No. 9 of 1909."

RINDERPEST IN THE DISTRICT.

The HON. SECRETARY said he would like to draw the attention of the meeting to the fact that, whereas the Assistant Government Agent, Nuwara Eliya, invariably reported all cases of cattle disease in the district to the Association and any action he was about to take in the matter, the Chairman of the Local Board, Gampola, had, on the occasion of the outbreak of rinderpest on Frotoft estate, closed the Delta-Frotoft road to traffic without notifying this Association of his intention. As this road serves three or four estates in this district, it was resolved:—"That the Hon. Secretary do write to the Chairman, Local Board, Gampola, and explain the position to him with a request that, should he in future deem it expedient to close this or any other road serving estates in this district, he would kindly notify this Association of his intention."

BENEVOLENT FUND.

The HON. SECRETARY mentioned that subscriptions for the current year were now due. A list was passed round the table and subscribed to by most of those present.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Read letter from Mrs. Edward Grimston acknowledging the vote of sympathy passed at the last meeting of the Association.

Read letter from the Secretary, Planters' Association re Rule XV.

Read letter from Chairman, District Road Committee, Nuwara Eliya, requesting a revision of the D.R.C. roads in the district.

Read letter from the Secretary, Planters Association re publication of the minutes of the General Committee.

The following papers were tabled:—

Letters from Parent Association *re* Pests and Cardamom Thefts. Circular *re* Rubber Research Scheme, and Correspondence with Assistant Government Agent, Nuwara Eliya, with reference to revision of Voters' Register.

This was all the business before the meeting, and the proceedings closed with the usual vote of thanks to the chair.

(Signed) CHAS. J. MARZETTI,
Hon. Secretary.

BADULLA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the above Association was held in the Town Hall, Badulla, at 10 a.m. on Saturday (27th September), preceded by a Committee meeting at 9.30 a.m. Mr. T. G. Elliott presided. *Present*:—Messrs. James Duncan, R. Gatehouse, C. S. Peter, Geo. Stewart, R. B. Jamieson, A. E. Peter, E. Napier, C. F. Way, H. Walter, L. Archdale, H. Beling, L. Orchard, A. I. Jainu Deen, A. Jainu Deen (jr.), D. G. Norman, F. Stewart, N. Stewart, Mills, J. D. Walker (visitor) and Wilfred Rettie, Hon. Secretary.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

TELEPHONES.

Correspondence with the Acting Superintendent of Telegraphs regarding a Telephone Exchange for the Badulla District was read. It was resolved:—"That the Hon. Secretary be asked to continue the correspondence and ascertain whether there had been any alterations in the rates proposed for the erection of the telephone system, with an exchange in Badulla, by Government, and at the same time to draw attention to the promise given by H.E. the Acting Governor to the Deputation of the Provinces P.A.'s in June, that the subject would receive the full and sympathetic consideration of Government.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the Acting Superintendent of Telegraphs held out no prospect of a reduction in the rates submitted in a previous letter dated January 10th. These were clearly prohibitive, and he considered that the isolated position of the district, where the need for a telephone system was keenly felt, should be taken into consideration by Government.

LIQUID FUEL.

Correspondence with reference to the storage provided for liquid fuel at Bandarawella and Haputale was read.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that this showed a most unsatisfactory state of affairs. Many estates had increased their storage accommodation and if ample provision at the two installations was not made, the position would be serious. At Bandarawella they had only one tank of 7,900 gallons capacity to meet the requirements of the whole district. Representations had been made to Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co., and to the General Manager of the Railway. The former was prepared to erect another 8,000-gallon tank

at Bandarawella but had, at the time of writing, received no reply from the General Manager, to their letter requesting permission to do so. It was evident that the railway had an insufficient number of wagons to meet the increased demand, but he understood the General Manager was prepared to recommend additional wagons, if the demand justified it.

Mr. DUNCAN—seconded by Mr. PETER—proposed:—"That the Hon. Secretary ascertain from members what their average monthly requirements were in order that further representation might be made without delay."

JOINT MEETING OF THE PROVINCE'S ASSOCIATIONS.

Read letter from the Passara Association proposing that an annual joint meeting of the Passara, Badulla and Haputale Associations be held in Badulla, to consider any matters of importance which affected the Province as a whole.

Mr. D. G. NORMAN said that the matter had been brought forward at the last meeting of the Passara Association, as it was felt that it would be to the advantage of the planting community in the province to hold a joint meeting where important matters, such as Telephones, Outlets, Transport Difficulties, etc., could be discussed. Matters such as these affected the whole district, and concerted action would be more likely to bring about the desired result than individual representation. At the present time, it was difficult to get Government to move in many matters which vitally concerned the prosperity of the province, and the more emphatic manner in which their needs were made evident the more likely were they to obtain redress. He suggested that a start be made at once and expressed the hope that the idea would receive the support of the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN entirely agreed with Mr. Norman, and

Mr. DUNCAN—seconded by Mr. C. S. PETER—proposed:—"That a sub-Committee consisting of Mr. R. Gatehouse, the Chairman and Hon. Secretary be appointed to meet and confer with the Haputale and Passara P.A.'s."—This was carried unanimously.

A letter from the Maskeliya P.A. containing a resolution dealing with the

HEAVY LOSS ON RICE

sustained by estates was next submitted.

The CHAIRMAN explained that the Parent Association had appointed a sub-Committee to study the whole question of coolies' food supplies.—The resolution was supported.

The Dimbula P.A.'s resolution regarding the rate of batta paid to witnesses in Supreme Court cases also received the meeting's support, the CHAIRMAN remarking that the cost of living had increased and that this should be taken into consideration by Government.

The Sabaragamuwa P.A.'s resolution proposing that the C.L.C. Committee be asked to open a cooly depôt in Colombo was supported.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that arrangements were at present being made to carry this into effect.

Correspondence regarding the

RAILWAY SLIP AT HAPUTALE

was next read.

The CHAIRMAN said that nothing of a permanent nature had been done to the slip, no repairs had been effected to the Haputale-Bandarawella road, no extra accommodation for goods had been provided at Haputale and Ambawella, nor had their other outlet, the Ambawella road, been put into good repair. With the monsoon at hand, the outlook was indeed gloomy. Uva had gone through a most trying time last season, and everything pointed to a similar state of affairs prevailing this year. Last June a deputation representing the planting interests of nearly the whole Province had waited on His Excellency the Acting Governor, on the occasion of his visit to Badulla, and had been unanimous in pointing out the above very obvious methods of protecting the food supplies of the Province during the coming monsoon, but the apparent results so far had been of so negative a character as to point to the conclusion that the recommendations of the deputation had been totally ignored.

Mr. DUNCAN—seconded by Mr. GATEHOUSE—proposed:—That the Colonial Secretary be written to and attention drawn to H. E. the Acting Governor's promise to the deputation which met His Excellency in June to do all that was possible to ameliorate the transport difficulties of the Province.

NURSING ASSOCIATION.

A letter from the Secretary, Ceylon Nursing Association, explaining that the existing rule on the subject of terms attached to a donation of Rs. 50 could not be altered without reference to a general meeting, but that if the Association would bring the matter up at the next meeting, it would receive every consideration was submitted. It was resolved that the Rev. E. V. Freeman, who represented the Association on the C.N.A., be asked to take the matter up.

An Engineer's letter *re* motor-transport was considered, and the Chairman suggested that members interested should send him the necessary information.

BADULLA P. M. AND COOLIES CERTIFICATES.

A letter was read from the Badulla Magistrate, suggesting that it would obviate troubles to estates if coolies were sent with an affidavit when applying for a certificate under section 26 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1909. He pointed out that coolies, as a rule, were unable to obtain such an affidavit except by payment, and often returned to the estates without obtaining the certificate. It was resolved that a copy of the form be sent to all members of the Association.

The HON. SECRETARY stated that he had received no reply from Government to the resolution dealing with the Cocoa Theft Prevention Ordinance passed at the last meeting, though he had repeatedly written the Colonial Secretary on the subject. It was resolved to refer the matter to the Parent Association.

PRIVATE MEDICAL PRACTITIONER FOR UVA.

Mr. R. GATEHOUSE proposed:—"That the service of a Private Medical Practitioner be retained for the district. That steps be taken to ascertain the number of estates likely to join in subscribing to such a scheme:—That a sub-Committee be formed to go into the matter and report to the Association as to its practicability."

Mr. GATEHOUSE, in speaking to the resolution, said that the question came up periodically but had been shelved to date, principally because many members in outlying estates had refused their support, being dubious as to whether their medical needs would receive the necessary prompt attention. That might have been the case a few years ago, but with the advent of motor cars, there was no reason why it should be so in the future. He was of opinion that the scheme would receive the sympathy and support of proprietors. The question as to whether an acreage cess should be levied or a scheme for a retaining fee at fixed rates per head formulated could be left to the Committee to deal with and report to the Association.

Mr. GEO. STEWART seconded.

The HON. SECRETARY said that this movement should not be taken to reflect on the capacity of the Medical Officers in the Province, whose time was largely occupied by their official duties, and they were sometimes unable to give that attention to private cases which their serious nature demanded.

Mr. DUNCAN, seconded by the Hon. Secretary, proposed that the following be added to Mr. Gatehouse's resolution:—"That the Haputale and Passara Associations be invited to support the scheme and asked to appoint representatives to act in conjunction with the Badulla Association."

The resolution was unanimously carried and the following members selected to serve on the sub-Committee:—Messrs. R. Gatehouse, W. G. B. Dickson, J. D. Walker, the Chairman and Hon. Secretary.

A vote of thanks to the chair, proposed by Mr. A. E. Peter, terminated the proceedings.

(Signed) WILFRED RETTIE,
Hon. Secretary.

KANDY DISTRICT PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the Kandy District Planters' Association was held in the Victoria Commemoration Building, Kandy, at 2 p.m. on Saturday. Mr. C. C. du Pre Moore presided and the others present were: Messrs. G. F. Farquharson, A. Lee Simpson, Jas. Piachaud, Harold Stevenson, Francis Holloway, Gordon Pyper, jnr., H. F. Dalton, G. Kenion, G. J. Murray, E. W. Keith, E. F. Home, W. A. F. Murray, S. R. Harmer, A. K. Pyper, A. C. Saxton, J. M. Colthurst, Stanley Hillman, V. I. Holloway (visitor), and Captain F. E. Henderson (Hon. Secretary).

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting and the minutes of the last general meeting were taken and read and confirmed.

KANDY CIVIL HOSPITAL.

Mr. A. LEE SIMPSON read the following report on the Kandy Hospital:—

Wattupuluwa, Katugastota,

September 29th.

THE CHAIRMAN,
Kandy District Planters' Association.

DEAR SIR,

I visited the Kandy Hospital on Saturday, the 27th instant, at 9 p.m., accompanied by Mr. Gilbert James. We were shown all the wards by Dr. Spaar, and found them, together with bathrooms and latrines, clean and well disinfected.

We would suggest that a second spring should be placed on the paying wards were slightly overcrowded, there being four patients in excess of regulation numbers; we trust, however, when the children's Ward is completed that it will prevent any congestion in the future in the Female Ward.

We would suggest that a second spring should be placed on the kitchen door, as present single spring does not close it properly, which, of course, does away with some of the good of putting fly-proof fittings throughout the room. In our opinion it is very desirable that a quieter and more private office should be provided for the doctor in charge; patients are now examined in the present office, which is decidedly open to the public view, and we should like to suggest that an absolutely private office and consulting room should be built, if practicable, on the site at right front of the administration block and opposite the new Eye Ward; being detached from any other buildings it would ensure quietness and privacy.

We are glad to hear that six new iron beds are on order for the Paying Wards.

Upon going through the Fly-proof Wards, we specially noticed the dim light and heat of same, and would like to suggest that, if possible, four extractor fans be erected; one fan at each end of the Male and Female Wards.

We visited the Observation of Sunday Wards consisting of six rooms, three for male and three for female patients under observation, five of which were occupied.

We understand that six extra rooms are shortly to be built on to the end of the present building. Patients in hospital at time of our visit were: men 122 and women 65.

One Ceylonese patient was in the Paying Ward.

Yours faithfully,

A. LEE SIMPSON,
GILBERT JAMES,

The SECRETARY: At the last meeting your Association passed the following resolution: "That in future any patient in the paying ward can have any doctor procurable in Ceylon to attend him if he or his friends so require it, and that the doctor in charge of the Kandy hospital be advised to that effect." I sent a copy of that resolution to the P.C.M.O., and this is his answer:—

Colombo, 9th July, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Kandy District Planters' Association,
Geragama, Kadugannawa.

SIR,

With reference to my letter No. 6,107 of the 28th June and the resolution of your Association that in future paying patients in the Kandy hospital can have any doctor procurable in Ceylon to attend on him, I have the honour to inform you that as the Kandy hospital with the paying ward is a Government institution the medical officer in charge is responsible, and that he can refer to the Provincial Surgeon if another opinion is required. Medical

officers not in Government employ cannot attend patients in Government institutions in consultation with the medical officer without special authority.

2. A further communication will be made regarding the 2nd resolution.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

G. J. RUTHERFORD,

Acting P.C.M.O. and I.G.H.

The SECRETARY: A second resolution was forwarded to the P.C.M.O. about the Planters' Ward in the Kandy Hospital, and was as follows: "That the Planters' Ward be moved to the present site of the Female Ward as the new Eye Hospital is shutting out air and light from the present European Ward, and that a kitchen be provided, and that supplementary estimates be prepared to cover the building." This is the answer received from the P.C.M.O.:—

Colombo, 18th July, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,

Kandy District Planters' Association,

Geragama, Kadugannawa.

SIR,

With reference to my letter No. 6,430 of 9th July, 1913, para. (2) I have the honour to inform you that I was not aware that the paying ward of the Kandy hospital was a Planters' Ward. It was originally the apothecary and stewards' quarters, and was converted into a paying ward for any section of the community at Government's expense.

2. I do not consider the proposal to move it to the present site of the Female Ward to be feasible.

3. With reference to the new Eye Institute shutting out the light and air, I think I must wait until it is completed before offering an opinion.

4. If possible a kitchen will be provided.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

G. J. RUTHERFORD,

Acting P.C.M.O. and I.G.H.

Mr. A. LEE SIMPSON remarked that he omitted to add that in his opinion the Eye Hospital does cut out light and air from the paying wards though Mr. James did not think so. He heard that patients could now sit in the verandah of the paying ward two hours earlier than before as the eye Hospital kept out the sun. They had the advantage of using the lounge two hours longer.

AN ENDOWED PLANTERS' WARD.

Mr. LEE SIMPSON then proposed the following resolution:—"That in the opinion of this Association, a Commission consisting of two members from each district interested be formed to go into the whole question of the advisability of building an endowed Planters' Ward in connection with the Kandy Hospital." He certainly thought it a most feasible thing to have an endowed Planters' Ward in connection with the present Kandy Hospital. He wished to suggest that a certain number of rooms, two or more, whatever was considered necessary, together with nurses' quarters, and kitchen should be erected and endowed by the Ceylon Planters' Association.

The motion was seconded by Mr. G. J. Murray and carried unanimously.

BLIND CORNERS ON MAIN ROADS.

The SECRETARY read the following letter and resolution from the Provincial Road Committee:—

Provincial Road Committee,
Kandy, 18th August, 1913.

E. W. KEITH, Esq.,
Hon. Secretary, Kandy District Planters' Association,
Kondesalla, Kandy.

Sir,

I am directed by the Provincial Road Committee, Central Province, to forward for your information copy of a resolution passed by the Committee, at a meeting held on 9th inst., and to request the favour of the co-operation of your Association in this matter.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
C. H. COLLIN,
Secretary.

(Copy of a Resolution referred to.)

1. Read letter of 6th August, 1913, from Mr. Wallace R. Westland re blind corners on main roads.

Resolved that this Committee is of opinion that inside corners which are made dangerous by reason of growth of vegetation should be cleared by the owners of the land, who should be asked to clear the lower branches of trees and otherwise improve the view round the corners.

2. The Committee is also of opinion that at outside corners on estates, the superintendents might be encouraged to make arrangements with the District Engineer to carry out the work on payment after measurement of the work done.

3. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Director of Public Works, and to all the Planters' Associations.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that the idea was that they should supply the labour and be paid by Government contract rates for cutting corners. The matter was brought up before the Committee of the C.P.A. and met with their support. It was now proposed that that meeting should support the resolution.

On the sense of the meeting being taken it was decided to support the resolution.

Mr. LEE SIMPSON wished to know where the soil from the cuttings was to be dumped. All the people below might strongly object to the soil being thrown on their properties; and he did not know why he should go round and try to persuade them.

The CHAIRMAN: When you cut the corners you must deposit the soil somewhere.

Mr. LEE SIMPSON: It will be encouraging if they make arrangements for depositing the soil.

The CHAIRMAN: Most of these roads have a reservation; and where there are such reservations the soil can be deposited below the road.

Mr. E. F. HOME: If they pay you for cutting the corners they will surely pay for the transport of the soil.

Mr. HAROLD STEVENSON: If Government will see to the cutting of the corners they must also see where the soil is to be deposited.

Mr. LEE SIMPSON: If they show me where to deposit the cutting it will be well.

Mr. G. F. FARQUHARSON: It is the work of the P.R.C. we are to do.

The CHAIRMAN: This point may be settled by individual superintendents. They may approach the District Engineer, or any other official, and find out where they are to deposit the soil.

Mr. LEE SIMPSON: I do not think the District Engineer has the power to do so—to advise where the soil is to be deposited.

The CHAIRMAN: You need not cut if you have no place to deposit the earth.

Mr. E. W. KEITH: Write to the P.R.C. and await a reply.

The SECRETARY: I do not think we can embody this in a motion.

The CHAIRMAN: I take it that on ordinary roads that border estates there are reservations on which soil can be deposited, without asking anybody's permission. But on grant-in-aid and estate minor roads there are no reservations.

Mr. LEE SIMPSON: You meet with tea growing at corners.

The CHAIRMAN: The road cuttings may make an effective top dressing for tea. (Laughter.)

Mr. LEE SIMPSON: Yes, to poison the tea.

The CHAIRMAN: Well, does this Association decide to support the resolution.

This was agreed to.

HOTEL RATES AND JURORS BATTAS.

The SECRETARY read the following letter from the Secretary of the Dimbula P.A.:—

"RATE OF BATTAS" SUPREME COURT.
Fairfield, Lindula,
August 15th.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Kandy Planters' Association,
Geeragama, Kadugannawa.

The following resolution was passed at our last meeting on the August 4th:—

1. That this Association request the Government, in their own interests, to immediately amend the present rate of battas allowed to witnesses in crown cases to a rate consistent with the present hotel prices, to which there is no reduction.

2. That all other Associations be requested to back this up. I hope this resolution will receive the support of your Association. I might add that the batta given to European witnesses in these cases is Rs. 4.50 a day.

I am, Sir,
Yours faithfully,
HUNTLEY WILKINSON,
Hon. Secretary, Dimbula P.A.

Mr. G. F. FARQUHARSON: What do the words "in their own interests" stand for? Is it in the interest of the Government to raise the batta rates?

The SECRETARY: Of course it will not be in the interests of Government to pay something more. (Laughter.)

Mr. G. F. FARQUHARSON: It might be in the interests of Government—as lovers of justice. (Laughter.)

The CHAIRMAN: Rs. 4.50 a day is hardly sufficient seeing that hotel rates have gone up to Rs. 9 a day, and they won't let the boxes go unless you pay before leaving.

I think we ought to support this resolution. Government ought to be asked to pay at least Rs. 9 a day batta.

Mr. PIACHAUD: Do all the hotels charge Rs. 9, and why?

The CHAIRMAN: They suddenly raised the rates last month. There are no ordinary rates now.

Mr. PIACHAUD: Don't they reduce in the case of jury men, seeing that they have to pay a hundred per cent. out of their pockets.

A MEMBER: The Firs Hotel charges a uniform rate of Rs. 6 a day.

The CHAIRMAN: Is everybody in favour of asking Government for better rate? There is no mention in this resolution about jurymen. They only mention witnesses in Crown cases. I will propose "That this resolution be supported, and that Government be asked to raise the rate of batta for witnesses in Crown cases and jurymen."

The motion was unanimously carried.

COOLY DEPOT IN COLOMBO.

The SECRETARY read a letter, dated June 29th, from the Hon. Secretary of the Sabaragamuwa P.A. enclosing a resolution passed by the Association asking the Ceylon Labour Commission to open a cooly depôt in Colombo similar to the one at Tuticorin.

The CHAIRMAN said the resolution came before the Committee of the Parent Association and a Committee was appointed to go into the question. A depôt was to be started in Colombo.

The SECRETARY then read an extract from a recent issue of the "Times of Ceylon" about the meeting of the Special sub-Committee of the C.P.A. held in Colombo with Mr. F. H. Layard in the chair, when the matter of the cooly depôt in Colombo was settled.

Mr. HAROLD STEVENSON remarked that the Sabaragamuwa P.A. ought to be congratulated on getting what they wanted, especially as they often did not get what they asked from Government.

The CHAIRMAN: The Sabaragamuwa P.A. have only asked for our views on the matter.

HIGH PRICES OF RICE.

The SECRETARY read the following letter from the Maskeliya P.A.:—

Maha Nilu Estate,
Norwood, August 30th.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Kandy District Planters' Association, Kandy.

DEAR SIR,

At a general meeting of the above Association held on August 27th the following resolution was passed.

Resolution.

"That owing to the heavy losses sustained by estates consequent on the high prices of rice ruling at present concerted action of some kind is a matter for immediate consideration."

Resolved: That copies of this resolution be sent to all District Associations for their support, and that the Parent Association be asked to take the matter up.

Yours faithfully,
C. B. PRETTEJOHN,
Hon. Secretary, M.P.A.

The CHAIRMAN: The Parent Association has taken this matter up and a Committee is to meet the Chamber of Commerce and go into the whole question. The local import duty has not been raised, and, as far as I can gather from those largely interested in the trade, the principal reason for the present high prices is prolonged abnormal weather conditions in the Indian rice-growing districts. Crops there have been and continue to be unusually short, with the result that local (Indian) consumption is absorbing very considerable quantities of rice which, under ordinary circumstances, would be available for export.

RINDERPEST AT MADULKELLE ESTATE.

The SECRETARY read a letter, dated the 30th September, from the Government Agent, Kandy, informing him that rinderpest has broken out at Madulkelle estate.

INQUIRERS INTO SUDDEN DEATHS.

The SECRETARY also read two letters from the Government Agent, Kandy, informing the Association of the appointment of Inquirers into Sudden Deaths for the Palle-gampaha Korale, Harispattu, and Pata Dumbura.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair, proposed by Mr. J. PIACHAUD, the meeting ended.

MATURATA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the above P. A. was held at the Gonakelle Pavilion on Wednesday, October 15th. Present:—Messrs. D. Lyall (Chairman, T. H. Williams, C. F. S. Shaw, H. C. Paterson, E. B. Robinson, R. R. Jaques, G. H. Baird, W. Cadge, and A. N. Paine (Hon. Secretary).

VOTE OF CONDOLENCE.

The notice calling the meeting having been read, the Chairman rose and said:—Before proceeding with the business, we have to place on record the heavy loss we and this Association have sustained by the deaths of Mr. Frank Vizard, who was the Hon. Secretary of this P.A., and Mr. G. Lang, and I propose a vote of condolence with their relatives.—Carried, all members standing.

The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed.

DISTRICT ROADS.

The following resolution was unanimously carried:—
"That the Chairman, D. R. C., Nuwara Eliya, be asked to nominate a member from the Udapusselawa and Maturata P.A. to serve on the Committee."

CART ROAD AND MOTOR TRACTION.

The following resolutions were unanimously carried:—
"That Government be asked to take immediate steps to have a permanent structure erected over the washaway on the Ellamulle-Padiyapalella road to replace the present temporary one."

"That Government be asked to have the Kandy-Padiyapalella-Mulhalkelle and Padiyapalella-Ellamulle roads made suitable for motor traction and that the Padiyapalella road be taken over as a Government road."

ESTATE SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 1914.

Mr. PAYNE proposed and Mr. SHAW seconded:—"That the local subscription be Rs. 2.50 for each 500 acres or part, and that each 500 acres or part should carry one vote in this local P.A."—Carried unanimously.

The Udapussellawa Labour Federation was not supported, as there is already a local Federation in the district.

THE ANNUAL REPORT.

Messrs. Paterson and Paine were elected to draw up the annual report for 1913.

The resolutions from the Maskeliya, Sabaragamuwa, and Dimbula P.A.'s were all cordially supported.

TELEPHONES.

Messrs. Lyall, Williams, Shaw, and Jaques were elected to serve on the local Committee with Mr. Paterson as Hon. Secretary. There being no other business the meeting concluded with the usual vote of thanks to the chair.

(Signed) A. N. PAINE,
Hon. Secretary.

PUNDALOYA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the Pundaloya Planters' Association was held on Wednesday, the 9th October, 1913, at 2.30 p.m. Present:—Messrs. J. B. Sidgwick (Chairman), H. L. Egan, J. H. Marcel, C. Owen, G. B. Stuart, Visitor: E. N. Mellersh. Read letter from Mr. Paulett regretting inability to attend.

THE PRICE OF RICE.

The Maskeliya P. A.'s resolution: "That owing to the heavy loss sustained by estates consequent on the high prices of rice ruling at present concerted action of some kind is a matter of immediate consideration," was passed unanimously, and it was hoped the Parent Association would be able to find relief in some way.

TELEPHONES.

Read estimates procured for erection of telephones which were kept over for further consideration for the Committee.

LIQUID FUEL INSTALLATION.

Read correspondence from Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co., who have the question under consideration and are waiting for further instruction from Head Office.

LORRIES.

This was further discussed. The following resolution was passed on the motion of Mr. EGAN seconded by Mr. MARCEL:—"That the Government Railway be approached asking them if they will put lorries to act as feeders to the estates in this district and at what rate per mile per ton, to be run on the same lines as the Rangalla Lorry."

DIMBULA DOCTOR'S BUNGALOW.

This was discussed, and it was decided to send the names of the different estates who are willing to come in, to the Dimbula P.A. at once.

DIMBULA P. A. RESOLUTION.

This resolution *re* batta for witnesses was supported by this Association.—The above to be sent to C.P.A.

AMBEGAMUWA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Almost a record gathering of Planters assembled at the Central Hotel this afternoon for a general meeting of the Ambegamuwa Planters' Association. Mr. M. L. Wilkins presided, and the others present were:—Messrs. A. R. T. Gibbon, H. M. Gordon, E. O. Craddock, S. McNicol, H. E. Pole (visitor), H. O. Lebbe, T. U. Todd, C. H. Hitchcock, C. G. Spiller, P. R. Shand, W. Fraser (visitor), H. C. Bryett, F. J. Fernando, D. A. Robertson, W. J. Mason, H. W. Strangman, B. S. Gibbon, R. Senior-White, I. H. M. Clark, S. P. Blackmore, J. Aymer, and H. S. Stevens, and B. B. Benison (Hon. Secretary.)

Notice calling the meeting was read and the minutes of the last meeting was confirmed.

Read letters of regret at inability to attend from Messrs. C. D. Chilcott and O. Balean.

The CHAIRMAN said that before they entered upon the business of the day he would like to refer to the knighthood conferred on the Hon. Mr. Rosling, and he was sure they would like to place on record their appreciation of the honour bestowed on a leading member of the community.

Resolved that the congratulations of the Association be forwarded to Sir Edward Rosling.

MATALE RESOLUTION RE LABOUR.

The CHAIRMAN with reference to the resolution forwarded to them by the Matala Association said that this matter had been disposed of at a general meeting of the Parent Association.

HATTON STATION.

The CHAIRMAN said that there was no actual need to support the Maskeliya resolution, as the General Manager was giving the matter his attention and had previously visited the station with a view to carrying out the wishes of the Maskeliya Planters' Association.

STOCK INSPECTION.

The Maskeliya resolution was before the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN: What are your views on the subject, gentlemen?

Mr. SPILLER said that the resolution was an excellent one to remedy the present unsatisfactory state of draught cattle. He thought they should support the resolution and this was agreed to.

THE RICE QUESTION.

The CHAIRMAN said that, as they all knew, a Special Committee had been appointed to go into the question and this Committee was going into the subject very thoroughly. It was absolutely absurd that Burma rice could not be supplied to Ceylon in the same form as "sulai." Burma mill-owners said that they could not prepare rice specially

for Ceylon. It seemed strange that a market of over half-a-million souls was not worth capturing.

BATTA TO WITNESSES.

Referring to the Dimbula Planters' Association resolution on the above subject the CHAIRMAN said it was an injustice to give Rs. 4.50 a day as batta considering that hotels charge them Rs. 9 a day. It was agreed to support the resolution.

K. V. RESOLUTION.

The scheme was considered rather crude as it did not give any details, but this subject of extra assistants for the Labour Commissioner was having the attention of both the P.A. and the Labour Federation.

SERVANTS' REGISTRY AND MIDLAND GROUP.

The above subject was a knotty question as this registry stood the risk of being abolished as one member refused to pay his contribution. It all arose over a matter of Rs. 5.52 which Mr. Hall declined to pay. There was voluminous correspondence on the subject. Mr. Hall objected to pay "on principle" and gave no reasons whatever. After much discussion it was finally decided to adopt the following resolution proposed by Mr. BRYETT, and seconded by Mr. BURNETT:—"That as Midland Group appears to be in such a moribund condition the hat be passed round and a subscription collected. The Hon. Secretary shall then pay the Government Agent and send the receipt to the Colombo Agents."

The hat was cordially passed round and amid considerable merriment each member contributed 25 cents. This amounted to more than the sum required, so the balance was handed over to the Cemetery Fund.

No other resolution being forthcoming Mr. Bryett's proposal was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

NAWALAPITIYA HOSPITAL.

The question of additional wards to the above hospital which were so strongly agitated for by three District Associations (Dolosbage, Kotmale and Ambegamuwa) was then taken up.

The CHAIRMAN, in introducing the subject, said that he had written to the Colonial Secretary on the subject and had also received a letter from the Kotmale Planters' Association reporting upon the slow progress of the work and desiring the co-operation of this and Dolosbage Association in urging upon the Director of Public Works to start the building of the new wards at once. The following correspondence on the subject was then read:—

NAWALAPITIYA HOSPITAL.

20th February.

THE HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
Colombo.

SIR,

At the general meeting of the above Association held on 6th instant I was requested to write and inform you that nothing has been done in regard to the urgently needed extension to this hospital. On the representation of three District Planters' Associations (Dolosbage, Kotmale and Ambegamuwa) a sum of Rs. 12,000 was, I understand, voted for this purpose, and we believe that Government is fully alive to the necessity of such expenditure, but the department responsible for the actual construction has so far failed to put the work in hand.

Our hospital visitor, who records the fact that the D.M.O. is doing his utmost under the circumstances, points out that patients in the dysentery and diarrhoea wards are being accommodated on the cement floor under other patients' beds and in the verandahs.

I think it will be admitted that this state of affairs is much to be regretted, that possibly the coolies are better off in their own lines, and that any further delay is prejudicial to health, if not the lives of the labour force.

It is respectfully suggested that, if the Department entrusted with the erection of the extra wards, etc., is not in a position to commence the work at once, contractors might be found who will undertake to finish a building of certain specification within a definite time, and we would commend this urgent question to the consideration of the officers administering the Government of this colony.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) M. L. WILKINS,
Chairman,
Ambegamuwa P.A.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, 26th March, 1913.

THE CHAIRMAN,
Ambegamuwa P.A.

SIR,

In continuation of my acknowledgment of your letter dated 20th February, 1913, I am directed to inform you that the provision for the improvements to the Nawalapitiya hospital made in the estimates for the current financial period was inserted in anticipation of the preparation of the necessary detailed plans and estimates. These have now been completed and sanctioned, and it is hoped that the work will shortly be carried out.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) D. W. ARNOTT,
For Colonial Secretary.

On the CHAIRMAN asking the members if they had any suggestions to make on the matter, Mr. F. J. Fernando said that he had been watching the building operations and that progress was extraordinarily slow. He further stated that insufficient hands were employed and suggested the work being given over to private contractors or Messrs. Brown & Co.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that this course was impracticable now that the work had commenced.

Mr. AMYER pointed out that nothing beyond the laying of the foundation had been done and only two coolies were working when he last inspected the site.

The CHAIRMAN suggested passing a resolution deploring the slow progress of this urgently-needed extension and deplores the slow progress made at this urgently necessary extension and would respectfully request Government to push forward the building with utmost possible despatch."

THE KANDY CEMETERY.

The deplorable state of the Kandy cemetery which was for the first time brought to the notice of this Association by Mr. P. R. Shand at the annual general meeting held early this year was the next item in the agenda.

The CHAIRMAN said that he had included this item presuming that Mr. Shand may have some remarks to make on the subject.

Mr. SHAND said that since this matter was taken up an improvement had been noted. The Municipality, he said, were taking interest in this matter, and now that a Committee has been appointed in Kandy to pay frequent visits to the cemetery, there need be no anxiety for the improvements agitated for. He added that all that was now required of members was their subscription. He particularly emphasised the disgraceful condition of the monuments erected over the graves of soldiers. Several monuments, he said, bore the inscription "Private so and so" and it was shocking to note that such a poor tribute should be paid to military men. However he hoped that the attempts made to render a better account of these graves would soon be realized.

The CHAIRMAN in a few words eulogised the good work done by Mr. Shand, and said that he deserved great credit for it. He also asked members who had not paid their subscriptions to do so.

Mr. SHAND desired all subscriptions to be sent to the National Bank, Kandy, to save trouble.

LABOUR FEDERATION AND COAST RECRUITING.

The above items were discussed in Committee, and the following resolution was unanimously passed *re* the former: "That this meeting approve of the principle of Federation."

ROADS.

In dealing with this subject the CHAIRMAN referred to the complaint made by Mr. Shand at the last meeting *re* the Rambukpitiya cutting. As the result of a letter to the District Engineer on the subject the Chairman said that he was pleased to report that the engineer had acceded to their request, and the same remark applied to the very dangerous corner at the junction of the Ambegamuwa road with the Dimbula road at Fruit Hill, also the cutting back of a number of blind corners. In appreciation of this work he proposed passing, "a cordial vote of thanks to Mr. Battle, District Engineer, for the manner in which the work had been carried out at Rambukpitiya (cutting blind corners) and Fruit Hill corner."—Carried unanimously.

DANGEROUS LEVEL CROSSINGS.

Mr. BLACKMORE pointed out certain dangerous level crossings which he said were liable to damage any vehicle—such he saw or noticed at Fruit Hill and Nawalapitiya, the latter especially. He suggested writing to the General Manager, C.G.R., to have these crossings attended to. Another matter deserving attention was that the majority of railway gates open outwards instead of inwards. As it would be impracticable to make all the existing gates to be closed inwards when road was clear for traffic, he suggested writing to the General Manager to have this done when repairing old gates or putting up new ones where none exists at present. This was put in the form of a resolution and carried.

PESTS.

The following resolution from the Parent Association was then considered:—"That the Planters' Association be asked whether compulsory proclaiming of plant pests on individual estates is desirable in the interests of the planting industry."

After a full discussion it was resolved "That the compulsory proclaiming of plant pests is undesirable until more practical remedial measures are available."

POST OFFICE AT HARDENHUISH.

Mr. BRYETT suggested having a receiving office at Hardenhuish and the following resolution by Mr. BRYETT, seconded by Mr. ROBERTSON, was passed:—"To ask the P.M.G. to place a receiving office at Hardenhuish and ask if they will forward registered letters if the usual receipt is signed exonerating the P. O. from all blame. Secondly, if they will forward urgent telegrams by the runner and accept the risk of all telegrams for despatch from Watawala on receipt of the usual charges."

J.P. AND U.P.M.

Mr. BRYETT, in tendering his resignation, proposed the name of Mr. H. M. Gordon, who, he said, was willing to act.

Mr. GIBBON, in seconding the motion, proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Bryett for his services in that capacity.

Mr. Blackmore's name was also proposed, but he declined on the ground that as there was now no corner he had insufficient time to take up both duties.

Mr. BRYETT pointed out that in the case of an inquest the sergeant was *non est* and that with his own imperfect knowledge of Tamil he experienced great difficulty in discharging the duties of such an official.

It was agreed that Mr. Gordon's name be submitted to Government.

With a vote of thanks to the chair the meeting terminated.

KNUCKLES, KELEBOKKA AND PANWILA P.A.

A Committee meeting was held at Madulkelle on September 11th at 1.30 p.m. Present: Messrs. T. Y. Wright (Chairman), C. W. Wood, H. L. Blacklaw, J. Greig, J. G. Napier and H. Hopwood (Hon. Secretary). This was followed at 2 p.m. by a

GENERAL MEETING.

Present (in addition to the above): Messrs. A. D. Morley, J. Hall-Brown, J. P. Hortin, G. L. H. Doudney, C. D. Hunt, J. Hemsted, E. C. Scott, C. S. Sealy, H. P. Russel, H. W. Kennedy, G. Mackwood, A. D. Donald, T. Moyes and F. H. Fraser (visitor). The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed. Regarding

TRANSPORT.

which was the first item on the agenda, the Honorary Secretary read the

REPORT OF A SUB-COMMITTEE

which had been previously appointed to go into the question, a meeting of which was held on August 21st at Gal-

phale Bungalow. Various correspondence was read and discussed and the meeting came to the conclusion that some of the estimates for surveys for the proposed ropeway were so high as to render it impossible for the Association to consider them.

Mr. HUNT proposed that a flying survey be made. This was seconded by Mr. HEMSTED.

Mr. HALL BROWN proposed as an amendment:—"That the whole scheme now before the meeting be submitted to Government and that they be asked if they can give this Association any assistance in lending the services of a surveyor or by themselves making a flying survey." The amendment was seconded by Mr. BLACKLAW and on being put to the meeting was carried.

TELEPHONES

were the next item on the agenda and in introducing the subject.

The CHAIRMAN mentioned that it appeared to be a very good thing that the police station at Panwila was going to be connected up as the telephone had played a very useful part only a few days ago in a serious matter on a far distant estate and much time and inconvenience had been saved.

There was one new subscriber since the last meeting, and the number of estates now connected up amounted to 17. To this must be added the Madulkelle Hospital and Post Office and the Panwila Police Station, making 20 lines.

A list of subscribers' numbers and a copy of accounts to July 31st have been sent to all subscribers.

The present working arrangements and upkeep of lines were the subject of a considerable amount of discussion and finally

Mr. HUNT proposed: "That the telephone Committee be authorised to make any necessary alterations in the existing rules regulating the working of the system."

This was seconded by the CHAIRMAN and carried.

The next item on the agenda was

MR. BLACKLAW'S RESOLUTION RE PANWILA RESTHOUSE.

Mr. BLACKLAW in introducing his resolution, said:—"I hope I shall not offend your susceptibilities with the unsavoury resolution I have to propose and for which I asked your support, nor wound your feelings by the plain remarks I make in its support. It is rather unfortunate that I should, after so short an interval, find fault with another Government Department and be once more a stormy petrel, but a sense of public duty again compels me to overcome my modesty, face the footlights and state my grievance. We have all at sometime or other had to visit the Panwila Resthouse and on those days on which the court sits we are compelled to put in an hour or two there to have a wash, change and breakfast. Like myself I have no doubt you have been struck with the air of dinginess and dirt that prevails in the building. Of course, in a Resthouse, one does not expect the luxury of a G.O.H.,

but we do expect cleanliness and a primitive regard for sanitation. That both these essentials are absent at Panwila admits of no doubt. The walls could do with a coating of white-wash, the floor with a scrubbing brush and soap and the furniture with elbow grease. The cushions in the chairs have a venerable and greasy look and the covers have not seen water since they were made, judging from their condition. The bed mattresses are filthy and I only congratulate myself that I have never had occasion to sleep on them." [Mr. Blacklaw then went into the question of the lavatory accommodation.] Continuing Mr. Blacklaw said:—"There is no use making a complaint in the book kept for the purpose as Government would not pay any attention to an individual complaint. It must come through our Association and if my resolution is carried something may be done to improve matters as the resolution will be forwarded to the Chairman of the Provincial Road Committee and he will be compelled to take action. It is high time that the Panwila Resthouse was made clean, tidy and sanitary. It is a reasonable request and one that the travelling public should insist on being granted. Now, gentlemen, I will put my resolution before you "That this Association draw the attention of the Chairman of the Provincial Road Committee to the dirty and insanitary state of the Panwila Resthouse and to request him to take prompt measures to have this state of matters rectified."

No one seemed anxious to second Mr. Blacklaw's resolution, and it appeared as if there would be no discussion on it, but for the sake of having the matter discussed.

Mr. GREIG finally seconded.

Mr. NAPIER: Has Mr. Blacklaw ever put his complaints in the book kept for that purpose?

Mr. BLACKLAW: No, I did not think it would be of any use.

Mr. NAPIER then said that if Mr. Blacklaw's resolution was sent to the Chairman, P.R.C., the first question asked would be "Why have these complaints not been entered in the complaint book."

The HON. SECRETARY said that on receipt of Mr. Blacklaw's resolution he went up to the Resthouse and went over it and found nothing to complain about.

The CHAIRMAN also said that he had called at the Resthouse that morning with the Hon. Secretary, and on going over it had found everything in very fair order.

The resolution on being put to the meeting met with no support.

The CHAIRMAN then said that he had a small matter to bring before the meeting, namely, the departure on promotion of Mr. Rasanayagam, the Mudaliyar of the Panwila Court, and he would like to propose:—"That this Association regrets the departure from the district of so efficient an officer and wishes him all success in his new appointment, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Government Agent, Central Province."

The resolution on being put to the meeting was carried by 10 votes to 2.

The next matter on the agenda was

CORRESPONDENCE

and the first letter read was a circular from the

S. P. C. A.

asking for a subscription. There was some discussion on the matter and it was finally decided that a donation of the same value as last year be given and that the attention of the S.P.C.A. be drawn to the fact that this is a donation and not a subscription.

A resolution from the Dimbula P.A. *re*

BATTA TO WITNESSES IN CROWN CASES

met with the support of the meeting, as also did a resolution from the Maskeliya P.A. *re*

RICE.

A letter from the Provincial Road Committee *re*

BLIND CORNERS

was read and some discussion took place and Mr. HALL BROWN proposed:—"That the first paragraph of the letter be supported and that the Provincial Road Committee be asked to explain the second paragraph and it be pointed out that the outside edge of corners is usually occupied by the P.W.D. metal."

This was seconded by Mr. HOPWOOD and carried.

MATALE TRAIN SERVICE.

A letter from the Matale P.A. supporting a resolution *re* train service previously passed by this Association was read, but as the matter had already been adjusted it was dropped and a further resolution from the Matale P.A. "That the old connection with the afternoon mail from Colombo be resumed" was supported by the meeting.

A letter from the Colonial Secretary *re* roads was read.

Mr. Doudney was elected to fill the vacancy on the Kandy Committee caused by the departure of Mr. Box from the district.

The following Committee to deal with plant pests in the district was elected:—Messrs. C. D. Hunt, J. G. Napier, J. P. Horton and G. W. Hunter-Blair.

A vote of thanks to the chair brought the proceedings to a close.

H. HOPWOOD,

Hon. Secretary,
Knuckles K. & P. P. A.

Proprietors' Labour Federation.

Notice.

- (1) THE OLD RULES of the P.L.F. are ABOLISHED, and the NEW RULES are in force as from the 3rd of OCTOBER, 1913.
- (2) All tundus issued by a member after this notice must show (on the back) the individual indebtedness of each cooly or family (consisting of parents and their unmarried children only).

- (3) The debts of coolies paid off by Federated Estates on tundus issued on or after the 3rd October, must be registered in the Office of the Federation before such coolies are paid off. Forms for this purpose are herewith issued to all Federated Estates.

JOHN STILL,

SECRETARY, P.L.F.

Kandy, 4th October, 1913.

The pamphlet contains the following:—

1. One copy of the P.L.F. rules.
2. One sample page of the P.L.F. Tundu form
3. One sample page of the P.L.F. Coolie REGISTER (Rule 19 form.)
4. One sample page of the TRANSACTION declaration (Rule 26 form.)
5. One sample page of the MONTHLY statement (Rule 27 form.)
6. One sample page of the BOLTER declaration (Rule 29 form.)

These five forms, viz., Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, & 6, may be obtained from any printer, but Superintendents are requested to see that any forms they get printed conform with the samples herewith sent, in printing, in quality of paper, and in size.

DIRECTORS FOR USE OF FORMS.

TUNDU FORM.—The face value of a Tundu in the case of:—

- (A). A Head Kangni, is the amount due by the Kangani to the Estate for advances.
- (B). A Sub-Kangani, is the amount due by the Sub-Kangani to his Head Kangani.
- (C). Ordinary coolies, is the amount of their registered debts.

N.B.—In the case of (A) or (B) should any of the coolies in the gang elect to stay on the paying off Estate the amount of their individual debts must be deducted from the amount of the Tundu.

RULE 19 FORM.—Any method of keeping kanganies and coolies accounts may be used, provided that it enables the Superintendent to fill in the Rule 19 form accurately.

The columns for entering the debts of Kanganies and coolies are headed respectively "To Kangani," "To Estate," and "Total Registered Debt."

In the first column the debts of coolies to their kanganies should be entered. The individual debts of sub-kanganies to head-kanganies will also come into the first column, that is to say the amount owed by the sub-kangani less the amount owed to the sub-kangani by his coolies.

For instance, a sub-kangani with five coolies owes the head-kangani Rs. 750.00 and is himself owed Rs. 500.00 by his coolies: the amount to be entered in the first column as his individual debt is Rs. 250.00, viz., the difference between the Rs. 750.00 that he owes and the Rs. 500.00 that he is owed. Similarly head-kanganies individual debts are to be entered in the second column under "To Estate," the individual debt being the debt to the Estate, less the registered debts of his coolies.

If a head-kangani owes less to the Estate than he is owed by his coolies, then he has no individual debt, and the column "To Estate" should be left blank.

The debts of "Estate account" coolies should be entered in the second column under "To Estate."

The third column, "Total Registered Debt" should contain, opposite to his name, the individual debt of each kangani or coolie, whether to kangani or to Estate. The total of this third column will equal the totals of the first two columns.

RULE 26 FORM.—A Superintendent paying off coolies either to a federated Estate or elsewhere should fill in this form from his P.L.F. coolie register, and send in the declaration to the Federation Office immediately the transaction is complete. It records an alteration in his coolie register and this office copy of that register will be altered accordingly.

A Superintendent taking on coolies—either on a tundu or from the Coast—should send in to the Proprietors' Labour Federation Office a Rule 26 form showing the addition to his coolie register. The office copy of that register will then be altered accordingly.

If coolies are taken on on a police-magistrate's certificate, the words "Estate, Post Town, Tin Ticket No." should be erased and the words "P.M. Certificate" substituted.

If children who have not worked before are registered, the words "Estate, Post Town, Tin Ticket No." should be erased and the words "New Worker" substituted.

RULE 27 FORM.—Clauses A.B. & D. explain themselves.

Clause C.—In the fourth column on the back of the form it is necessary to insert the authority for the statement that the coolie is dead. Such as "D.M.O."

RULE 29 FORM.—When a coolie has "bolted" this form should at once be filled in and sent to the Federation Office so that the necessary adjustment of the Kangani's account may be made in this office copy of the coolie-register. In the event of the "bolter" being recovered within three years (the legal term of prescription, vide Ordinance No. 9 of 1909 Sec. 3) a Rule 29 form readjusting the account should be sent to the Federation Office. In this adjustment form the words "bolted;" &c.) should be erased and the words "returned," &c., be substituted.

The same will apply when "bolter's" debt has been recovered, even through the "bolter" himself has not returned.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary, P.L.F.

13th October, 1913.

RULES OF THE PROPRIETORS' LABOUR FEDERATION OF CEYLON.

1. The Association shall be styled "THE PROPRIETORS' LABOUR FEDERATION OF CEYLON."

2. The object for which the Association is formed are—

(1) To check the steady increase which has of late occurred in Coast Advances in connection with labour already imported in the Island, and to bring about a gradual reduction of such advances with as little loss as possible.

(2) To encourage the recruiting of Coolies from the Coast, and generally to protect the interests of members employing imported labour.

3. Any proprietor of an Estate of a larger extent than 10 acres may become a member of the Federation by registering such estate in the books of the Federation and shall pay a subscription of 5 cents per cultivated acre per annum, and shall furnish to the Secretary the following particulars of such estate:—

(a) Name of Estate.

(b) Name of Proprietor.

(c) Extent of cultivated area under each different product,

and shall continue subject to rules Nos. 7 and 34 to be a member so long as any estate belonging to him remains in the Register. The Secretary shall keep a book to be called "THE REGISTER," in which he shall enter the particulars aforementioned.

4. A member owing more than one estate shall not be compelled to register all such estates owned by him but shall be bound as a member of the Federation in respect of such estate or estates as he shall register.

5. All estates so registered shall be deemed Federated Estates.

6. Any member not resident in Ceylon shall nominate an agent resident in Ceylon to represent him while so non-resident, and every Limited Company (being a member of the Federation) shall nominate an agent resident in Ceylon to represent to such company.

Such nomination shall be made in writing, and in the case of a Limited Company under its common seal, to the Secretary who shall enter the same in the Register, and every agent so nominated shall have all the right and privileges of a member.

7. No member shall be entitled to cancel the registration of any Federated Estate within two years of such registration. After the expiry of the said period of two years, any member may cancel such registration by giving 6 months notice in writing to the Secretary of his intention so to do.

8. Payment of subscription shall be made to the Secretary on or before the 31st day of January in each year.

9. A Chairman and a Committee consisting of 20 members shall be chosen by the vote of the majority of the

members present at the first meeting of the Federation and at each annual meeting thereafter and shall hold office for one year or until their successors are appointed. The outgoing Chairman and Members of the Committee shall be eligible for re-election. The Chairmen of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, and of the Chamber of Commerce, Colombo, shall be members of Committee *Ex-officio*.

10. The Chairman or in his absence any member who may be elected by those present, shall take the chair at all meetings of the Federation. The Chairman of the meeting shall have, in addition to his vote as a member, a casting vote in case of an equality of votes. He shall exercise the usual functions of a presiding officer; and in all cases of dispute, doubt, or difficulty arising out of matters of procedure or order, his decision shall be final and conclusive.

11. The Committee shall generally control the working of the Federation and shall (subject to the provisions of Rule 31) have power to deal with any alleged breach of the rules of the Federation and shall have power to fill any vacancy in any office or in the Committee which may occur in the intervals between any two annual general meetings at a Committee Meeting, and the decision of the Committee shall be determined by a majority of votes provided that the Chairman of the meeting shall in addition to his vote as a member have a casting vote in the event of there being an equality of votes. The Chairman or in his absence any member of the Committee chosen by those present shall preside at the meeting of the Committee.

Five members of the Committee shall form a *quorum*.

The Secretary of the Federation shall be appointed by the Committee and shall perform such duties as they may direct and shall be paid such salary as the Committee may from time to time determine.

GENERAL MEETINGS.

12. An *Annual General Meeting* shall be held in each year in the month of April for the purpose of—

- (a) Receiving the Committee's report and statement of accounts for the previous year.
- (b) Electing Chairman and Members of the Committee.
- (c) Deciding upon any alteration in the rate of subscription;
- and (d) Transacting such other business as may be duly brought forward.

13. *Special General Meetings*, shall be held when necessary and shall be called by the Committee or at the request of members representing one-tenth of the registered area. The notice calling any such meeting shall state the specific purpose for which the meeting is called, and no other business shall be dealt with.

14. At all general meetings the *quorum* shall be 7 members in person provided they represent not less than 15 per cent. of the enrolled acreage.

15. Seven days' notice shall be given of all Annual and Special General Meetings under Rules 12 and 13.

16. No Rule of the Federation, save the rule as to the

vote of subscription, shall be altered, and no new rule shall be made except at a Special General Meeting of the Members thereof of which fourteen days' notice must be given to each member or to his representative in Ceylon, nominated under clause 6.

Any resolution embodying a proposed alteration or addition to the rules, must, to become effective, be passed by a majority of two-thirds of the members present and voting at the meeting.

17. At any meeting, unless a poll is demanded as hereinafter provided, every resolution shall be decided by a show of hands, in case there shall be an equality of votes the Chairman at such meeting shall be entitled to a casting vote in addition to the vote to which he may be entitled as a member. A declaration by the Chairman that a resolution has been carried or carried by a sufficient majority or lost, as the case may be, and an entry to that effect in the minute book of the Federation shall be conclusive evidence of the fact without proof of the number of votes recorded in favour of or against such resolution.

18. If at any meeting a poll is demanded by at least two members present in person or by accredited agent and entitled to vote the poll shall be taken at such time and in such manner as the Chairman shall direct, and in such case every member present at the taking of the poll either personally or by his accredited agent (appointed under Rule 6) shall have one vote for each 500 acres, or part thereof, of his registered cultivated area, and in case at any such poll there shall be an equality of votes the Chairman of the meeting at which such poll shall be taken shall be entitled to a casting vote in addition to any votes to which he may be entitled as a member or agent for a member.

COOLIES' ACCOUNT.

19. All Kanganies' and Coolies' accounts, whether with the Kangany or Estate, shall be kept monthly by Estate Superintendents and for the sake of uniformity, the forms supplied by the Proprietors' Labour Federation should preferably be used. (The forms are to be had on application to the Secretary.)

TUNDUS.

20. All Tundus issued by a Superintendent of any Federated Estate, shall be in the form which may from time to time be prescribed by the Federation.

The individual indebtedness of each cooly or family (consisting of parents and their unmarried children only) shall be stated on the tundu—the amount of such indebtedness to be taken from the coolies' account book kept by the Superintendent, and no other sum whatever to be included in the amount of the debt shown upon the tundu.

21. Transactions by ontaking Federated Estates shall be based upon the face value of the tundu as governed by Rule 20.

22. Except when so necessitated by the operation of Rule 29, the amount recoverable from any Cooly or Kangany shall not exceed the debt registered in the office of the Proprietors' Labour Federation and each transfer shall constitute a fresh registration (vide rules 25 and 26.)

